MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

8 APRIL 1982

Iran

Soviet Bombing -- On 5 April Soviet planes bombed the town of Hormak, near the Afghan border, hitting a police station and wounding several policemen, according to Afghan sources in Tehran cited by AFP. Soviet planes bombed the nearby Robat region of Afghanistan, killing over 100, and helicopters mined the area, the sources added. An official Iranian source confirmed the Hormak incident but refused further comment, according to AFP. Monitored Iranian media have not mentioned the bombing.

Pipeline Explosion -- An Iranian-Soviet gas pipeline was blown up south of Rasht on 4 April, AFP reported citing KEYHAN.

Khamene'i-USSR Ambassador Meeting -- "We hope that on your return from Iran you will strive to see that your government emulates the peaceful behavior of our government," President 'Ali Khamene'i told the departing Soviet ambassador at a farewell meeting reported by Tehran radio.

Alleged Executions -- Over 1,000 supporters of the Mojahedin-e Khalq and other antiregime groups have been secretly executed during the past 2 months, the clandestine Free Voice of Iran radio claimed.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Iraqi Officer Interview -- Iran's losses in last month's Shush-Dezful battles included 23,643 dead, 347 tanks, 150 armored troop carriers, 311 other vehicles, 6 planes and 8 helicopters, an Iraqi major general claimed in a Baghdad television interview reported by INA. The Iranians were foiled in their main objective of crossing the Iraqi border, the officer added.

Muslim Deportees -- A new group of Iraqi Muslim deportees whose numbers may reach 1,000 has begun arriving in Iran, Tehran radio reported.

Egyptian Aid -- Egyptian President Husni Mubarak has apparently promised Iraqi President Saddam Husayn to send volunteers and other military aid after 25 April in return for a resumption of full diplomatic relations, according to Jerusalem radio. During Egypt's Cabinet meeting on 7 April, Defense Minister 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah expounded the details of the military situation in light of the recent Iranian attack, Cairo MENA reported citing the minister of information. Egypt stands on the side of Iraq in the war and considers any danger to the oil-rich region as threatening its own security and stability, Egypt's permanent UN representative 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid declared in a statement to Kuwait's AS-SIYASAH cited by KUNA.

Algerian Mediation Offer -- Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid has offered to mediate in the war and suggested that the 1975 Algiers agreement could serve as the point of departure, AFP reported.

Musavi Speech -- If mediating countries want peace in the region, they should exert pressure on the present Iraqi regime, but even if they fail to do so, Saddam Husayn's regime will collapse, Iranian Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi said in a speech to officers' academy graduates reported by Tehran radio. Iran will not take one step backward without compensation, condemnation of the aggressor and ousting of the last Iraqi soldier from its soil, Musavi added.

Jordanian Warning -- Jordanian Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim told the nonaligned meeting that Jordan's warning to West Bank inhabitants to leave the village leagues has greatly bolstered the people's will to continue the uprising against the Israeli occupation, Amman radio reported.

Israel

Sharon Statement, Eytan Interview -- Emphasizing that increasing quantities of weapons and sabotage materiel have been reaching the Gaza Strip via Sinai, Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon has expressed fears about ties Egypt has been developing with "terrorist" organizations, DAVAR reported citing private statements by Sharon within the defense establishment.

From Israel's viewpoint there is no difference between a handgrenade thrown in Gaza or a mortar shell fired at a border settlement, Chief of Staff Lt Gen Refa'el Eytan declared in an interview with MA'ARIV. Noting that a terrorist organization admitted that it murdered the Israeli diplomat in Paris, Eytan maintained that the PLO is behind terrorist actions though it sometimes uses fictitious names to conceal its trail. So long as such terrorist activities occur, there is no cease-fire as far as Israel is concerned, he stated.

West Bank Situation -- A nun was hospitalized after being seriously wounded by a handgrenade thrown at a tourist group visiting Jacob's well in southeast Nabulus, Jerusalem radio reported. The thrower escaped toward the Balatah refugee camp upon which a curfew was then imposed, the radio added.

"Hooligans" beat up people at a college in Bethlehem and a club and cafe in Bayt Sahur. Local inhabitants accuse village league members of the attacks, but military sources attribute them to criminal elements, according to Jerusalem radio. In a cable to Sharon, the Mayor of Bayt Sahur demanded that village league members be disarmed, the radio added.

A military court found the mayor of 'Anabta guilty of violating military orders and possessing banned publications, the Jerusalem POST reported.

We call on all Palestinian corporate bodies, national personalities and religious leaders to concert their stand and announce their rejection of the civil administration, the Nabulus Municipal Council declared in a statement broadcast by Voice of Palestine.

Phosphates Field -- One of the world's richest phosphate fields has been discovered near Beersheba, according to Jerusalem radio. Experts believe that the newly found ore, whose discovery had been kept secret, has a high percentage of uranium, the radio added.

Syria

Security Situation -- Two Soviet experts were killed in an armed ambush in the Euphrates Dam area, and Muslim Brotherhood members killed a Ba'th Party official in Aleppo, according to the Voice of Lebanon radio. The radio also reported tension along the Iraqi border and a large demonstration in Aleppo.

Cooperation With USSR -- Cooperation between Syria and the Soviet Union is developing toward the level of a strategic alliance as the only way to face the U.S.-Zionist alliance, 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, Ba'th Party assistant secretary general, said in a 35th party anniversary rally speech carried by Damascus radio.

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MADRID PAPER INTERVIEWS 'ARAFAT AIDE

PM080851 Madrid MUNDO OBRERO in Spanish 26 Mar -1 Apr 82 p 38

[Unattributed interview with Faruq 'Abd ar-Rahman, "special envoy" of PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat -- date and place of interview not specified]

[Text] Yasir 'Arafat's special envoy Faruq 'Abd ar-Rahman has granted an interview to our magazine and firmly and clearly answered all our questions, so we can provide our readers with a firsthand acquaintance with problems facing the PLO.

First, he gave us his opinion regarding [President] Mitterrand's visit to Israel.

"The French socialist government's policy has three characteristics. When a French minister visits the Middle East he makes statements favorable to the Palestinian cause. If he visits Israel, his statements are favorable to Camp David and Israel's aggressive policy. When he returns to France, he always denies making such statements. But France has always refused to grant the PLO diplomatic recognition. Mitterrand supports our independent state, but is only too well aware that this state will never be established by asking (Israeli Prime Minister[Begin. At the same time his external relations minister has said that they are willing to sell weapons to Israel. What we are asking the French Government is that it grant the PLO diplomatic recognition, in line with what it has said."

[Question] What are the PLO's immediate objectives?

[Answer] We are struggling first and foremost to establish an independent Palestinian state. And subsequently for the creation of a democratic state throughout Palestine.

[Question] How do you view the future in the medium term, taking into account the very varied regimes that exist in the area?

[Answer] These regimes have characterized themselves by the transformation of armies into political parties and the destruction of the parties in order to keep hold of power. All their conceptions have failed in our countries. The armies must return to their barracks and to the borders, in order to defend them.

[Question] How do you view Egypt's position with regard to the prospect of Israel's return of Sinai?

[Answer] We believe that Mubarak will be even more sinister than As-Sadat himself. He is in fact planning another Camp David at which we will place the Arabs between the devil and the deep blue sea and confront them with an irremediable fact: That the Arabs recognize Israel. Thus settling the Middle East issue at the Palestinian people's expense, that is, by forming not the Palestinian state but what is called the United Kingdom, in which part of occupied Palestinian territory would merge with Jordan while Israel would retain the rest. We will cause this plan to fail, just as we caused Camp David to fail, as far as the Palestinian cause is concerned.

[Question] Let us move on to the PLO's relations with other liberation movements, especially in Latin America, which are now waging a direct struggle with imperialism.

[Answer] We believe that there is a single revolutionary cause worldwide. This is why we have helped El Salvador, Guatemala and Nicaragua both morally and materially. When the Sandinist Front triumphed we took a further step toward Palestine and we will take yet another when El Salvador and Guatemala triumph. We will support national liberation movements in all respects.

[Question] What is the Palestinian people's present state of mind?

[Answer] In fact we are winning day by day. When the state of Israel was founded it was regarded as a normal state. But it has been realized that it is an artificial state, no more than a U.S. base in the Middle East. Israel owes the United States $18 billion; 50 percent of its industry is owned by U.S. capitalists. Israel will become a U.S. aircraft carrier in the third world. Our fighters know that, from being a virtually unknown revolution we are now recognized by 116 states. We have 93 embassies -- many more than Israel. When 8 months ago there was a war of attrition and they expected us to be an easy prey, we destroyed almost all the paramilitary units in the north of Israel. They were confident of occupying southern Lebanon. They did not dare to do so. Attacking the Palestinians is not like attacking any other Arab state. Our fighters' morale is very high, not only because of our political and military position but because we enjoy the support of the socialist bloc and the USSR, and especially of our comrades in the West European Communist Parties.

[Question] As Yasir 'Arafat's envoy and representative, how do you believe the European democratic countries could help resolve the Middle East problem, particularly the Palestinian people's situation?

[Answer] There are two basic ways in which they can help us. First, the military aspect. The other aspect is moral and diplomatic. Of course the USSR and the socialist bloc supply us with the weapons with which we are fighting. We have received diplomatic recognition and support within the United Nations and international bodies. Hitherto the socialist countries' support has been the strongest on the international level.

PLO MEMBER'S RESIGNATION FROM COMMITTEE DENIED

JN080815 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 8 Apr 82 p 24

[Text] Amman, AR-RA'Y -- The Occupied Homeland Affairs Department in Amman yesterday denied the news published by a local newspaper on the resignation of Hamid Abu Sittah, PLO Executive Committee member and head of the Occupied Homeland Affairs Department. It stressed that Hamid Abu Sittah is still performing his duties as head of this department and chairman of the Palestinian side to the joint Jordanian-Palestinian committee.

PALESTINIAN MILITARY OFFICIAL TO VISIT DAMASCUS

NC081050 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1015 GMT 8 Apr 82

[Text] Brother Staff Brig Gen Abu al-Walid [Sa'd Sayil], chief of the central operations room of the joint forces, has left for Damascus to meet with Syrian Army Chief of Staff Gen Hikmat ash-Shihabi and senior military commanders in Damascus to discuss the current situation and the means for foiling the goals of any Zionist aggression.

KUWAIT

FURTHER COVERAGE OF NONALIGNED CONFERENCE

Papers View Meeting, Issues

LD071240 Kuwait KUNA in English GMT 7 Apr 82

[From the press review]

[Text] Kuwait, 7 Apr (KUNA) -- Extracts from Kuwaiti newspaper editorials Wednesday:

KUWAIT TIMES on the results of the Non-Aligned Coordination Bureau meeting:

"Disturbing is the news we heard from various sources at the Non-Aligned Coordination Bureau meeting: It is also saddening to note that even a glimpse of hope we had that a meeting might be held between the Iraqi and the Iranian sides has just vanished. Our sources now regretfully believe that there is no hope for ending the bloody war without solid ground work done here in Kuwait to pave the way for a meeting between the Iraqi and the Iranian representatives.

"Certain sources at the non-aligned meeting are also convinced that neither Europe nor the United States is keen that this war should come to an immediate halt. On the contrary, the source says that both have geared their military production capabilities to aggravate the war by way of selling arms to the two warring Muslim states. This is indeed a miserable situation which we dealt with on these columns yesterday.

"We agree with the opinion that Iran would accept solution to the present impasse only in the event of either a military defeat, or an economic collapse or the the exit of the Iranian leader from the scene. However, it is our conviction that bloodshed must stop because, all Arabs and Mulsims and non-aligned believe, it would be in the interest of all sides."

AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM on the raging Israel and the passive Arab world:

Israel will take crucial steps in the coming stage. The Israeli scheme for quashing the south is no more a secret, for the great uprising inside the occupied lands made the Begin government hurry up with its plan to blow the Palestinian head represented by the resistance's command and its armed presence in Lebanon. Nor is it a secret that Israel is not intending to withdraw one inch from the occupied territories. As it has announced publicly and frankly, the forthcoming withdrawal from Sinai is the last of the (Israeli) withdrawals.

"Washington intended to indirectly prepare the Arabs for this reality when, through one of its senior officials, it maintained that in this stage Israel is more in need of a dose of valium than of a shipment of tanks. Washington through this hint wished to point out that Israel is so uptight it could do anything. As for the Arabs, their task would of course be to calm down and accept.

"What will happen for sure is that the Arabs, as Washington wishes, will remain calm for the thing is Arabs have gone beyond the stage of reacting to danger to the stage of an overwhelming coma.

"In his speech to the meeting of the Coordination Bureau of the Non-Aligned Conference, deputy premier, Foreign and Information Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad recalled that the extraordinary meeting of the Arab foriegn ministers, held in Tunisia following the Israeli annexation of the Golan, had among other things decided to form a committee entrusted with evaluating political and economic relations existing between Arab countries and countries supporting Israel.

"Never once have we heard that this committee had had a meeting to discuss the tasks it is supposed to perform. This is because the natural conclusion of the evaluation to be carried out by the committee will be to call for boycotting the U.S. This supposition it seems prevented the committee from ever meeting."

More on Velayati Address

LD071812 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 7 Apr 82

[Excerpts] Dear listeners, 'Ali Akbar Velayati, our country's foreign minister who has gone to Kuwait to attend the session of the foreign ministers of the Nonaligned Movement member countries, heading a delegation, in a speech yesterday afternoon, the first day of the conference, outlined the decisive policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in defending the rightful struggles of the Muslim and oppressed people of Palestine against the regime occupying Jerusalem. Here is the text of the speech by our foreign minister:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful [passage indistinct]. Mr Chairman, the Nonaligned Movement, like the world of Islam, has vital tasks in defending Muslim and nonaligned Palestine. In the world of Islam and the Nonaligned Movement, we should not stop at this and that conference, issuing harsh or mild resolutions against the Zionist regime, declaring ideological and verbal support for the rights of the Muslim people of Palestine and convincing ourselves that we have fulfilled our duties in defending Palestine. On this basis, the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran believes that the realization of the rights of the people of Palestine and more important than that, the right to liberate the occupied Palestine from the claws of the occupying Zionists will be possible with the total unity of the Muslim and nonaligned forces and the support of all the oppressed people of the world, and by stressing the principles proposed by Iran during the recent UN General Assembly. Since the proposals are (?basic), I repeat their points:

1. Rejecting the plans and political solutions by imperialist and Zionist circles and their agents in the region, and extending the life of the slogan: armed struggle against Zionism up to the last breath and the last man;

2. Not depending on the resolutions and approval of international organizations and [words indistinct] as Imam Khomeyni has said, the principle of these organizations have been made by themselves. [as heard] If they had not been made by themselves, how could a bully country have the right of veto;

3. The member countries are asked to take out their foreign currency reserves and (?assets) from countries which support Israel economically, militarily or diplomatically;

4. Following a unified economic policy, which guarantees the mobilization of all the facilities and resources against the Zionist regime and its imperialist supporters;

5. Preparing all the potential and actual forces to defend the territorial integrity and the independence of Palestine;

6. All-round political-military-economic-ideological support for the Arab steadfastness front against Zionist aggressions, especially Syria and the PLO, and also the Muslim people of south Lebanon who prefer honorable struggle to [word indistinct];

7. Giving ungrudging support to the glorious uprising of the Palestinians from the occupied lands against the fascist regime ruling Palestine and giving any form of assistance necessary for the continuation of the revolution until the realization of the legitimate and (?undeniable) rights of the Palestinian nation and their gaining control of their destiny and choosing the path they may decide to follow.

The war imposed on Iran (?is contrary to) [words indistinct] the principles of the Nonaligned Movement, especially the principle of nonaggression, which should be [words indistinct] by all the honorable members. This aggressive country obeys these principles.

Mr Chairman, honorable representatives, in spite of that, we assure you that as soon as we are rid of this imposed war -- which will not be too far in the future -- we will rush to the aid of our Muslim Palestinian brothers with everything at our disposal and utilize all our might for the liberation of Palestine. Helping the Muslim Palestinian nation is the unavoidable duty of all Muslim, nonaligned and peace-seeking forces of the world.

I end my speech with the new instructions given by the great leader Imam Khomeyni, who says: We do not wish to be at war with any country, be they Islamic or non-Islamic. We wish for peace and tranquillity for everybody. We have so far defended, which is a divine instinct and human [word indistinct] for anybody, and would never have any intention of aggressing against other countries. We want the Islamic countries to stand alongside each other, with Islamic commitment, and defend the right of the Muslim and the Islamic countries against aggressors and [word indistinct], like the aggressor Israel. May peace and God's mercy be with you.

Jordan's Al-Qasim Address

JN071806 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 7 Apr 82

[Text] Kuwait -- Jordanian Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim said that Jordan and other Arab sides are cooperating with the peace efforts exerted to implement the international community's will, recognize the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people and achieve a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East, while Israel continues to ignore the international will, scorns UN resolutions and increas s its aggression on Arab lands and rights.

In a speech at the meeting of the current Nonaligned Movement's Coordination Bureau session in Kuwait at the ministerial level, Al-Qasim reviewed the Israeli repressive and oppressive measures in the occupied Arab territories aimed at changing the demographic and geographic nature of the occupied Arab territies. He reviewed the Palestinian people's daily suffering inside the occupied Arab territories as a result of Israel's attempt to implement its designs which aim at imposing civil administration there in order to implement the autonomy conspiracy. He said that the Jordanian Government, following what is happening in the occupied West Bank, had warned those who cooperate with the occupation authorities through the so-called village leagues to leave them and added that it would implement Jordanian law against those who continue as members in these suspect leagues. He stressed that this firm decision has had a great effect in bolstering our people's will to remain committed to the land and to continue the courageous uprising through which they have confronted with heroism and steadfastness the Israeli occupation's repressive and oppressive measures. This has led to hindering Israel's plans for imposing a fait accompli and for making the world believe that this military occupation no longer exists after the civil administration was imposed.

Egyptian Delegate's Speech

NC062002 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1815 GMT 6 Apr 82

[Text] Kuwait, 6 Apr (MENA) -- Head of the Egyptian delegation to the extraordinary meeting of the Nonaligned States' Coordination Bureau, Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, has emphasized that Egypt is a main part of the Arab body and that neither cannot live without the other.

He pointed out that Egypt, aware of its natural responsibilities, has made a principal contribution in serving the Arab nation in all phases of its development. Therefore, and in accordance with the call made by the Nonaligned Movement and its members to support the Palestinian people's rights, Egypt will continue to work faithfully to bolster these rights and attempt to regain these rights in practice, and not merely emphasize these rights theoretically.

During the first morning session held by the bureau this afternoon, Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid called on the Nonaligned Movement to think of an initiative based on mutual and simultaneous recognition between the Palestinian people and Israel and to let this be a starting point for ending the stalemate that is about to enfold the Palestinian issue anew.

Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid explained that mutual and simultaneous recognition requires Israel to fully recognize the Palestinian people's rights and end the Israeli occupation of their country, their right to return or be compensated in accordance with UN Resolution 194, their right to sovereignty over their wealth and resources, their right to self-determination without foreign interference, their right to establish their independent state in the [West] Bank and [Gaza] Strip on the basis of the 1967 borders and to respect their sovereignty rights in Jerusalem and rejection of any change in Jerusalem's demographic or legal status as well as their right to their land and, subsequently, their rejection of any Israeli policy or measure taken by the Israeli occupation authorities to change, wholly or partially, the geographic, demographic, or legal status of the territories occupied in 1967.

Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid said that the mutual and simultaneous recognition also requires Israel to recognize the Palestinian people's right to security and to have secure borders on the basis of reciprocity and similar treatment as that given to the neighboring states, their right to the abolishment of all the Israeli measures taken in the occupied Palestinian territories contrary to the Geneva agreements, their right to the removal of the Israeli settlements built contrary to the principles of international law and the international agreements governing conditions under occupation as well as their right to the complete application of the Geneva agreements to the occupied Palestinian territories until a comprehensive settlement is reached and Israel withdraws from these territories.

He added that, in return, the contemporary political and international circumstances make it imperative that Israel's right to exist within its internationally recognized and secure borders be recognized within a mutual framework as well as all the other rights stipulated in the relative resolutions issued by the UN bodies concerned.

Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid continued: I have spoken with honesty and explained the matter according to the dictates of our conscience, role and responsibility. How easy it would have been for me to join in condemning this and that.

He called on the conferees, on behalf of Egypt, to push matters to a practical premise, pointing out that the dominant trend among the Palestinian people is the desire to establish peace, and it is the right of this valiant people to enjoy peace and its fruits. He also said that any movement toward this aim should take place as soon as possible, so that no chance is lost and so that the establishment of just peace will be reinforced.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid pointed out that the extraordinary meeting of the Nonaligned Coordination Bureau is being help in delicate circumstances, some of which call for optimism and some for sorrow and anxiety, and all call for caution, profound thinking, sound policy and correct action.

He said: After a few days, the Israeli occupation forces will withdraw from the Egyptian lands occupied in 1967. The importance of this development cannot be ignored. Its results on the legal, political and historical levels has an effect which will inevitably create a momentum that will help progress toward comprehensive peace.

He added that this is the first time in modern history in which the Israeli tide retreats so that an Arab state, which is Egypt, can regain its sovereignty over its national soil and a piece of its territory which had remained under occupation for about 15 years. He said: However, we cannot ignore the fact that the Palestinian issue is the crux of the Middle East conflict, and we cannot expect a just and comprehensive peace without solving it.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid repeated in this regard President Husni Mubarak's statement on the occasion of the day of solidarity with the Palestinian people in which he said that the denial of the fundamental rights of the Palestinian people had led to conflict in the area lasting more than 30 years, during which tens of thousands of people were killed and huge resources destroyed. These resources could have contributed to the achievement of progress and prosperity for the peoples of the developing area. Since the Palestinian issue is the crux of the problem, it has occupied a leading position in Egypt, which has led the struggle for the resotration of the Palestinian rights and established the UN resolutions as the basis for the solution of the Middle East problem.

Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid has warned that the situation in the occupied Palestinian territory in the West Bank, the Gaza Strip and Jerusalem has reached a high point of gravity. We must handle this situation from the angle of its present and long-range effect on the future of the Palestinian question.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid stressed that these delicate circumstances require serious handling and avoiding wasting time in recriminations and accusations while the suffering of our people in the occupied land is increasing and the Palestinian question is being subjected to a growing blatant defiance. He said that the current state of affairs must exceed the stage of recriminations, condemnations and resolutions. He called for a new stage, based on a conscious study by the Nonaligned Movement, to lift the suffering of the Palestinian people in the West Bank and Gaza Strip and to handle seriously and practically these crucial moments in the history of the Palestinian question in which strong words, formulas and resolutions by any international council or forum are insufficient.

'Abd al-Majid pointed out that it is from this premise that Egypt has deemed it fit to shoulder this burden and to make moves to establish a transitional period to defuse the tense situation, to deter Israel from annexing the Palestinian land or claiming sovereignty over it, and to make it recognize the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people and the importance of negotiating with their representatives to arrive at a just solution acceptable to all the parties concerned.

'Abd al-Majid noted that by doing so Egypt does not mean to seize a right that does not belong to it and speak for the Palestinian people. Rather, it is trying to move the prevailing deadlock and propose to world public opinion a logical avenue that might lead to moves from which the Palestinian people might benefit and to put forth an alternative before Israel, which is still going in the opposite direction.

Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid pointed out in his speech that Egypt has done everything in its power to halt the deteriorating situation in the occupied territories -- as everybody is aware -- and to end the suffering of the Palestinian people who are under occupation and to give hope to the Palestinian people, who have been scattered all over the land or in refugee camps, so as to make it possible to establish a peace that will enable the peoples of our nation to surge toward a better future under the canopy of more acceptable and less challenging relations.

Iraqi Delegate's Address

LD071658 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1223 GMT 7 Apr 82

[Text] Kuwait, 7 Apr (KUNA) -- Sa'dun Hammadi, Iraq's foreign minister, said that his country will remain in the vanguard of the Arab countries who are struggling for the liberation of Palestine.

In a speech he delivered here this morning at the resumption of the extraordinary meeting of the Nonaligned Movement's Coordination Bureau, he added that Iraq has always effectively participated in shouldering responsibility in defending Arab rights in the Palestinian homeland and in all wars which have broken out in the past against the Zionist entity.

At the beginning of his speech he expressed the satisfaction of the Iraqi delegation at the holding of this important meeting devoted to discussing the Arab's main cause, the Palestine question, hosted by sister Kuwait and under the presidency of the friendly Republic of Cuba.

The Iraqi minister referred to the Zionist security theory and described it as the most dangerously aggressive theory witnessed by our present era. He said that had it not been for the unlimited military, economic and political backing which the Zionist entity receives from the United States, it would not have been able to implement its aggressive expansionist plans against the Palestinian people and the Arab nation.

Dr Hammadi criticized the stand of the countries of the EEC. He said that imports by these countries from the Zionist entity contribute to the success of the Zionist policy which is bent on robbing the Palestinian people of their wealth and of perpetuating occupation.

Referring to the Iraqi-Iranian war, he said that Iraq was forced [words indistinct] this was in defense of its territory and sovereignty and against aggression, and in order to ensure the security and safety of its citizens. At no time has Iraq desired this war, and it had done all it can to avoid its tragedies. The war was imposed on it in September 1980.

Baghdad on Hammadi Address

JN071903 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 7 Apr 82

[Text] Kuwait -- The extraordinary meeting of the Nonaligned Movement's Coordination Bureau resumed in Kuwait today. Iraqi Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi delivered a speech in today's session in which he said that Iraq had never sought war and it has done its best to avoid it and its tragedies. The war, however, was imposed on Iraq on 4 September 1980.

Dr Hammadi added: More than 19 months have passed during which Iraq has been fighting for its just rights and it has been compelled to wage the war in defense of its territory and sovereignty against the aggression and for safeguarding the security and safety of its citizens. Dr Hammadi said that the latest step on this course had been President Saddad Husayn's letter to Guinean President Ahmed Sekou Toure on 15 March 1982, in which Iraq reiterated its acceptance concerning the formation of a committee that will be entrusted with defining which party began the aggression and the war.

The minister also said that we still are waiting for the Iranian Government to accept this proposal so that the truth will become clear and to enable the Muslim peoples, the non-aligned countries and world public opinion to become acquainted with the circumstances that caused the armed dispute between Iraq and Iran.

Dr Hammadi said that the faith of the revolution in Iraq in the Nonaligned Movement's principles, its commitment to these principles and its desire to safeguard them are not mere political slogans but are the result of Iraq's militant experience on the regional and national level aiming at protecting sovereignty and independence and keeping away from all international blocs and alliances.

He stressed the need to rally around the Nonaligned Movement, work to develop it and entrench its principles and values in such a manner that will protect it from all the attempts to have it deviate from its sound course or to circumvent it. Dr Hammadi added that we, in this sensitive area where imperialist and Zionist forces are doing their best to achieve their interests and objectives for expansion, are in need, more than ever before, of cooperation and solidarity with the Nonaligned Movement's countries. We greatly hope that our movement will play its historic role in championing the people's causes and defending their legitimate rights, particularly the Palestinian people's cause.

Dr Hammadi added: We are looking forward to the nonaligned summit conference, which Baghdad will have the honor to host, to adopt these ideas and principles as a course for all our actions so that the future stage will abound with more cooperation and solidarity to achieve our common objectives. Dr Hammadi said that the meeting of the nonaligned countries' Coordination Bureau in Kuwait acquires special importance because it was convened under the very difficult and grave circumstances through which the Palestinian cause is passing and because the militant Palestinian people are being subjected to the most barbaric forms of oppression, tyranny, terrorism and expulsion at the hands of the Zionist occupation authorities and their insistence on legalizing their occupation of the Arab and Palestinian lands for good. Dr Hammadi stressed that Iraq would continue to remain among the vanguard Arab countries which struggle for the liberation of Palestine.

Hammadi, Committee Meet

JN071756 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 7 Apr 82

[Text] Kuwait -- The nonaligned countries' ministerial committee entrusted with settling the Iraqi-Iranian dispute met with Iraqi Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi in Kuwait today. The two sides discussed the task of the committee which is entrusted with seeking a just and honorable settlement of the dispute between Iraq and Iran. The two sides also discussed the achievement of this objective.

Dr Hammadi reiterated to the committee Iraq's stand on the dispute, which is to have Iran recognize Iraq's legitimate rights to its land and water, refrain from interfering in its domestic affairs and recognize Iraq's sovereignty and independence.

The committee praised Iraq's cooperation with its efforts.

Iraqi Proposals

JN080923 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0830 GMT 8 Apr 82

[Text] Kuwait, 8 Apr (INA) -- It has been learned that the drafting committee stemming from the meetings of the Nonaligned Movement's Coordination Bureau has approved all proposals submitted by the Iraqi delegation. The INA correspondent in Kuwait has said that Iraqi proposals deal with Zionist practices in the occupied Arab territories, the Zionist entity's repeated violations of Arab airspace and aggression against the nuclear installations and the dangers of supplying this entity with nuclear weapons.

Hammadi, Yugoslav Minister Meet

JN080959 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0840 GMT 8 Apr 82

[Text] Kuwait, 8 Apr (INA) -- Dr Sa'dun Hammadi met here this morning with Josip Vrhovec, Yugoslav federal secretary for foreign affairs, and discussed with him the Iraqi-Iranian war and the efforts being exerted by the Nonaligned Movement's quadripartite committee to reach a just solution to the dispute between the two countries. The two sides also discussed matters related to the Nonaligned Movement's forthcoming summit conference in Baghdad in September and coordination between the two countries in this regard. In addition, they discussed some affairs related to the Nonaligned Coordination Bureau's forthcoming meetings in Havana this June.

Saddam Husayn's Message

JN061226 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1150 GMT 6 Apr 82

[Text] Kuwait, 6 Apr (INA) -- President Saddam Husayn has sent greetings to the extraordinary meeting of the Nonaligned Countries' Coordination Bureau in Kuwait. In a message addressed to Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca, in his capacity as chairman of the meeting, President Saddam Husayn said that holding a special meeting to discuss the Palestinian issue would support the Palestinian people's just struggle and would guide the Nonaligned Movement states in their move in international seminars and circles in support of the Palestinian people's struggle.

In his message which was announced by the chairman, President Saddam Husayn said that the Nonaligned Movement has, since the emergence of the Palestinian issue, been supporting it as an issue of a people suffering a racist and expansionist colonialism supported by world imperialism and colonialism. He asserted that Iraq still considers the Palestinian issue the basic axis of its foreign policy. Iraq, the president added, which will host the nonaligned conference in September, hopes that your meeting will attain positive results in support of the Palestinian people's struggle.

President Saddam Husayn expressed regret that at a time when the Zionist entity is stepping up its aggressive and arbitrary campaign, some countries continue political, economic and trade dealings with the usurper entity. He added that other states have military relations with the Zionist entity and are purchasing arms for it, thus contributing to supporting the Zionist economy and to developing its military industries.

In conclusion, President Saddam Husayn said: I wish you success and hope to see you soon in our country for the sake of achieving the noble objectives of the Nonaligned Movement to which we belong.

Afghanistan's Dost Speaks

LD080520 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 7 Apr 82 LD

[Text] Shah Mohammad Dost, DRA minister of foreign affairs and head of the Afghan delegation to the nonaligned countries' foreign ministers conference to discuss Palestine, delivered his speech this afternoon in complete support of the just claim of the Palestinian people. He supported the idea of taking effective measures to pressure Israel and its imperialist guardians, and for the implementation of the decisions of the United Nations, the conference of the Nonaligned Movement and other international forums

The nonaligned countries' foreign ministers conference to discuss Palestine opened yesterday in Kuwait with a statement by Shaykh Sabah al-Hamad al-Jabir al-Sabah, deputy prime minister and foreign affairs minister of Kuwait.

Yasir 'Arafat, president of the PLO Executive Committee, Dr 'Ismat Kittani, chairman of the UN General Assembly and Peoli Malmierca, the Cuban foreign relations minister, also made statements at the meeting.

According to another report Shah Mohammad Dost met yesterday morning with Mohamed Ben Yahia, the Algerian foreign affairs minister, and exchanged views over topics of interest.

PlO's Faruq Qaddumi Speech

NC080950 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0614 GMT 8 Apr 82

[Speech by head of the PLO Political Department Faruq Qaddumi, identified as Abu al-Lutf, at the meeting of the Nonaligned States Coordination Bureau, in Kuwait -- date not given, read by announcer]

[Text] Mr Chairman, distinguished delegation chairmen. It pleases me to convey warm congratulations to his excellency the foreign minister of the fraternal State of Kuwait on chairing this extraordinary and emergency meeting of the Coordinating Bureau of the Nonaligned States. This gives us confidence that our work will be crowned with success in view of the expertise and knowledge of his excellency the brother minister and his great political wisdom.

This morning we heard the expressive speech which his excellency delivered and which really embodied the stand of fraternal Kuwait, a stand which is committed to our just cause and which supports our Palestinian Arab people and their armed revolution. On this occasion I also express thanks and appreciation to the amir, government and people of fraternal Kuwait for their warm hospitality and their hosting of this conference, which is in line with the profound traditions of the friendly people of Kuwait.

I would also like to express great thanks to the friendly republic of Cuba and to the Cuban foreign minister for the efforts he made -- in his own capacity and on behalf of Cuba as chairman of the Nonaligned Movement -- in preparing for this meeting. I also thank all of you for attending this meeting which is being held to support the struggle of our people. This meeting reaffirms that the Palestinian issue is an issue of the entire Nonaligned Movement and that it embodies a struggle for all the objectives and principles for which this movement has been founded and has struggled. I also praise the great efforts which the brothers in the state of Kuwait have made to organize this meeting and their warm hospitality, which is in line with the deep traditions of the fraternal people of Kuwait.

It is my duty to greet our steadfast people inside and outside the occupied land for their determination to carry on the struggle until we liberate our land and restore all our national rights, including the right to self-determination and to establish an independent state on Palestinian national soil.

Distinguished members, we are meeting today under very serious and complex circumstances. Our Arab area and the Middle East region are passing through a phase in which the circle of danger has expanded, the tempo of the imperialist-Zionist has escalated and the plot of Israel and its U.S. ally against our Palestinian Arab people and our occupied Arab land has become clearer. This plot has entered the phase of practical implementation and is consequently threatening the peace of the region, the security of its people as well as world peace and security.

The United States continues to ignore the principles of right and justice. It continues to adopt an overtly hostile attitude toward our Palestinian and Arab issues. It continues to back, support and protect the Zionist entity and its fascist and racist measures, thus disregarding international law and human rights principles in defiance of the international society and world public opinion. This unlimited U.S. support for Israel has been reflected in the Zionist enemy's movements and measures. The Zionist enemy has annexed Jerusalem and the Syrian Golan Heights, thus violating the principles and resolutions of the United Nations and international conventions on the status of occupied territories. The enemy is also planning to annex the other occupied territories. Despite the world community's wide-scale condemnation of these Israeli steps and despite the illegality of these measures, the United Nations and the Security Council have failed to deter Israel and to make it respect international law -- because the U.S stand backs Israel, refuses to condemn it and supports its aggression.

We are now witnessing the second phase of the imperialist-Zionist plan inside the occupied land where our people are being subjected to the ugliest forms of aggression and oppression and to all means of pressure and blackmail to stifle their will and resistance, usurp their land and property and displace them from their land preliminary to annexing and grabbing this land.

The occupation authorities began their present plan by imposing civil administration inside the occupied land. They appointed a military governor who wears civilian clothes. They began to put pressure on the municipal councils to rob them of their jurisdiction and control them as a step toward abolishing the Palestinian national institutions and eliminating the national leaders who oppose occupation and are committed to the objectives of the Palestinian struggle under the leadership of the PLO -- the sole legitimate representative of our Palestinian Arab people.

Thus Israel replaced the elected municipal council of Al-Birah with military officers whom it appointed with the force of arms. On the first day this happened, on 18 March, our people staged a huge popular uprising which covered all the towns and villages of the occupied land. Demonstrations were staged and a general strike was declared. This upset the Zionist military authorities, which resorted as usual to oppression and terrorism. They closed the universities and schools, confronted the students with tanks and bullets, arrested a large number of national figures, adopted fascist measures and carried out unprecedented barbaric acts. Scores of victims fell and the prisons and detention camps became packed with the sons of our people in the occupied land. The occupation authorities used all these acts to strike at the movement of the masses, suppress the massive popular uprising and implement the Zionist plan to annex and Judaize our occupied land.

However, the masses and their struggling leaders inside the occupied land stood fast in the face of this barbaric onslaught and their chests received the bullets of the Zionist settlers and the Israeli army sent by terrorist Sharon to attack the unarmed inhabitants and open fire on them. The Zionist enemy escalated its confrontation of the popular uprising inside the occupied land. It dismissed the two brother strugglers Bassam ash-Shak'ah and Karim Kahalaf, the mayors of Nabulus and Ramallah, after dismissing [Al-Birah Mayor] Ibrahim at-Tawil and dissolving the Al-Birah municipal council.

The Israeli military authorities thought that their dismissal and harassment of the three mayors and their suspension of the municipal councils would weaken the uprising of the masses and diminish their zeal. However, this failed utterly. The uprising expanded, covering the entire Palestinian homeland from the north to the south and from the east to the west.

Palestinian citizens in Lod, Ramla, Jaffa, Akre, Jaljuliya, Beersheba and Rafah participated in the uprising alongside their brothers in Nabulus, Janin, Ramallah, Al-Birah, Jerusalem, Hebron and Bethelehem, thus expressing a unified stand and a firm line of struggle over all the Palestinian land.

Our Palestinian Arab people are continuing their confrontation and resistance of the occupation, affirming their determination to adhere to the land and to rally around their sole legitimate representative, the PLO. Even the so-called village leagues formed by the Israeli enemy through its agents have not been able to stand up against this firm national will.

Mr Chairman, distinguished members. The series of events in the area and the practical implementation of the imperilist-Zionist plan for the occupied lands are totally in line with the Camp David conspiracy and the so-called self-rule and are the outcome of the U.S. strategy in our Arab area, a strategy which aims at striking at and dividing the Arab ranks, ensuring complete control for the Zionist enemy and enabling it to behave belligerently in the area so that Israel will become the striking arm of the United States and its forward strategic base.

The United States has signed a strategic alliance agreement with the Zionist entity. It has brought the Rapid Deployment Forces to our area with the aim of threatening the peoples of the area, their security and independence and also threatening the Arab and African liberation movements. The Zionist enemy has embarked on quick and continuous steps aimed at accelerating the annexation and Judaization of all the occupied lands, benefiting from the current Arab situation and the continuous and unlimited U.S. aid. The enemy has annexed Jerusalem and the Golan and is trying to annex the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, benefiting from the U.S. support for its steps.

Mr Chairman, the Zionist enemy has carried out unprecedented acts inside the occupied land. It has killed, displaced, imprisoned and besieged the masses and denied them of their means of livelihood. It has infringed on national heritage and culture, desecrated the holy places and burned the Al-Aqsa mosque. It has sequestered funds and properties with the force of military and terrorist oppression. It has established scores of armed military settlements inside the occupied homeland. It has imposed collective punishment and has given the settlers the freedom to open fire on the citizens. It has officially and systematically organized the assassination of scores of leaders and strugglers. It has dismissed the municipal councils and their elected chairmen, putting army officers in their place. It has used every occasion to express its contempt for the UN principles and resolutions and its disregard for international society and world public opinion.

Despite all this, the whole world is still unable to take any action or measure to deter the enemy and prevent it from continuing its aggression. We are again entering the whirlpool of the Security Council and the draft resolutions and the amendments to them until in the end we are left with two options: either the Security Council resolution is drafted in terms acceptable to the United States or the United States will use its veto right and matters will return to the same whirlpool. The Zionist enemy will then adopt another step, benefiting from the opportunity which the United States is always giving to him. Thus, matters always return to square one.

As for Europe, which can plan a role in peace and in solving the Middle East crisit, we are regrettably seeing some retreat in Europe's stand. President Mitterrand's visit to Israel and occupied Jerusalem is a proof of this retreat in the French stand. Western Europe should have adopted a just and nonaligned stand toward the Palestinian issue because it has several vital interests in the Arab area which it must take into consideration when drawing up its political stands.

Mr Chairman, the United States is not adopting a hostile stand toward our Palestinian people alone but also against all the struggling peoples in the third world with the aim of perpetuating its control over our peoples and exploiting our national resources. The current flagrant U.S. aggression against the rights of the peoples of the Latin American countries for liberation and emancipation -- and El Salvador is the best example of this -- and the U.S. support for the racist regime in South Africa are the quintessence of the U.S. imperialist policy hostile to the aspirations of all our peoples.

Our movement -- the Nonaligned Movement -- is facing a serious challenge. It comprises the largest concentration among the peoples of the world and is the most important supplier of raw materials and natural resources. Imperialist ambitions in the movement's countries and people are great. Consequently, the imperialist plotting against our peoples and homeland will be big.

It has become necessary to adopt firm and principled stands. [Passage indistinct] our Arab nation, the states and peoples of the Nonalignment Movement, the socialist countries, the OAU, the Islamic Conference Organization and all the peace-loving and freedom-loving peoples and forces in this world are supporting us. We will continue to fight until the banner of freedom and victory is raised.

Mr Chairman, distinguished members. Our Palestinian Arab people highly commend the nonaligned countries' stands in support of our just struggle on the basis of the common hostility to imperialism, Zionism and racism and on the basis of the common objectives of all our peoples for liberation, independence and the establishment of international relations in which oppression and exploitation do not exist.

We are confident that our meeting will contribute toward strengthening the steadfastness of our people inside and outside the occupied lands. I would also like to express our absolute support for all the peoples struggling for their freedom and independence in Asia, Africa and Latin America, especially in South Africa, Namibia and El Salvador. We have a common struggle against a common enemy, which is imperialism, Zionism and all the oppressing and racist regimes in the world.

I thank you again and peace be with you.

Iranian Envoy Criticizes Iraq

LD072124 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 7 Apr 82

[Text] A correspondent for the voice and vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran, dispatched to Kuwait, sent a report about the baseless accusations by the ruling Iraqi regime's representative at the nonaligned foreign ministers conference in Kuwait. The accusations were made against the Islamic Republic of Iran during today's session and Mr Shams Ardakani, on behalf of the Iranian delegation, replied to the accusations. Let us listen to this report:

One of the speakers at this morning's session in Kuwait of the extraordinary conference of nonaligned foreign ministers was the foreign affairs minister of the Baghdad regime. The speaker pretended to be the aggrieved party and made some fabrications by claiming that his country is defending itself. He said that his country is engaged in a defensive war and has always tried to stop it. He also claimed to be defending the rights of Palestinians.

The ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Kuwait, representing the Iranian delegation, answered claims made by the foreign affairs minister of the Iraqi regime.

In part of his remarks Shams Ardakani stated: It seems as if the foreign affairs minister of Iraq has misunderstood the meaning of defense and aggression, prevention of war and conspiracy and the meaning of banding together and usurping land. [as heard] All the aggressors, including Zionists and their speaker Begin, justify their aggressions by tactics and hints similar to the remarks made by the Iraqi foreign affairs minister. What kind of defense is this which starts with an attack on the territorial integrity of Iran at a time when the Islamic republic of Iran lacked sufficient defense and military (?equipment) at the border regions?

During the past 18 months that the Iraqi representative claimed that he was engaged in defense, the main task of the invading forces of this regime has been nothing else but shelling and bombing of civilian areas. During these shellings, 1 and 1/2 million people were made homeless and turned into refugees.

The ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Kuwait, continuing his speech, replied to the claims made by the Iraqi foreign affairs minister on defending the rights of the people of Palestine and said: Have the mercenaries of the Baghdad regime done anything to serve the interests of Palestinian people since the coup d'etat of 1960, except [words indistinct]? On which front have they fought for the sake of Palestine? Is it not true that in 1970 a complete brigade of the Ba'thist regime was sent to wipe out Palestinian fedayeen guerrillas on the east bank of the river Jordan? His mightyness is claiming to have defended the Golan Heights; the honorable representative of Syria is present here; his excellency could be asked whether this claim by Iraq is true.

In conclusion, addressing the representative of the Iraqi regime, he reiterated: I announce loudly that as long as the people of Iraq and Palestine have friends like you, they need no enemies.

'Arafat, Qaddumi Meetings

JN071751 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in English 1500 GMT 7 Apr 82

[Excerpts] PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat yesterday met with several heads of delegations to the extraordinary meeting of the Nonaligned Movement Coordination Bureau.

Accompanied by Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department, 'Arafat met with the Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, Kuwaiti deputy premier and foreign minister; Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca; and 'Ismat Kittani, current president of the UN General Assembly. Discussions focused on the issues being dealt with in the nonaligned meeting.

'Arafat also met with Islamic Conference Organization Secretary General Habib Chatti, with whom he discussed the latest developments of the situation on the Iraqi front. They agreed on the need for a meeting of the Islamic good will commission on the Iraqi-Iranian war. Finally, they reviewed the latest developments in the occupied territories and the uprising of the Palestinian people there.

'Arafat also met with Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati with whom he reviewed developments in the Iraqi-Iranian war and the situation in the occupied territories.

In further meetings with delegates attending the Coordination Bureau of the Nonaligned Movement, Yasir 'Arafat yesterday afternoon met with the Iraqi Foreign Minister Sa'dun Hammadi and discussed with him the situation in the Middle East and the latest developments regarding the Iraqi-Iranian war.

'Arafat reviewed with the foreign minister of Grenada the latest developments in the Middle East and the Caribbean and various other issues of common interest.

'Arafat held another meeting with the foreign minister of Nicaragua. Finally, he met with Jordanian Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim.

More on 'Arafat

JN071829 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1745 GMT 7 Apr 82

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] today held several side meetings during the nonaligned countries' Coordination Bureau's meetings in Kuwait.

This morning, he spoke with African representatives in the UN Security Council. He discussed with them the U.S. imperialist role which contradicts the international will. He also discussed the stand that must be adopted to face U.S. policy on all levels, particularly on the Zionist repressive and terrorist measures against the Palestinian masses inside the occupied territories.

Brother Abu 'Ammar also met with the head of the Romanian delegation, who conveyed greetings from Romanian President Ceausescu. He also reiterated his country's support for the Palestinian people's just and legitimate struggle against the Zionist occupation and its terrorist policy.

Leader Abu 'Ammar also met with heads of the delegations and foreign ministers of Angola, Afghanistan and the Maldives, who confirmed their countries' support for the Palestinian people's struggle under the leadership of the PLO, their sole legitimate representative. They firmly condemned the Israeli occupation's barbaric measures against the escalating popular uprising in the occupied territories.

Brother Abu 'Ammar explained to the participating delegations the dimensions of the Israeli threats and concentrations of forces in southern Lebanon, which also coincide with the oppressive and repressive measures against citizens in the occupied territories.

At noon today, Brother Abu 'Ammar received Mahmud al-Ma'muri, the Arab League secretary general's representative. They discussed steps to be taken to further back the Palestinian cause.

Castro Message

LD080942 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0827 GMT 8 Apr 82

[Text] Kuwait, 8 Apr (KUNA) -- Fidel Castro, Cuban president and current chairman of the Nonaligned Movement, has said in a message sent to the representatives of the states participating in the extraordinary meeting of the Coordinating Bureau of the Nonaligned Movement which is meeting here: "The events that took place in the occupied Arab territories in Gaza, the West Bank and the Syrian Golan Heights during the past few days arouse great concern among the member states of our movement and all mankind." He said: "Israel's unlawful and arrogant expansionist policy reveals once more its criminal and domineering nature." He went on to say: "The Zionist occupier had taken the ugliest measures of repression against the Arab people in the occupied territories. It killed Palestinian nationalist youths who were determined the defend their (?homeland) and their cause and with great courage they opposed all forms of repression which Israel is exercising in its feverish race to impose its laws on the territories which it occupied by force."

President Castro said: "In my capacity as chairman of the Nonalignment Movement, Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and King Hassan II, chairman of the Arab summit conference, have addressed messages to me expressing their feelings, their rejection and condemnation of this new escalation of the Zionist measures which the chairman of the Arab summit conference described in his message as being contrary to human laws and leading to the deterioration of the cultural heritage of the civilized world and its noble spiritual values."

President Castro expressed the hope that the meeting of the Coordination Bureau will issue a definite condemnation of the Zionist regime and will lay down an effective and cohesive program of action to check the Israeli expansionist trend and halt its crimes."

He said: "The Nonaligned states ought to assert to the world once more and in a persistent manner our clear will to halt, irrespective of the price, the continuation of the mass annihilation operation which Israel is practicing with material backing and encouraging diplomatic protection from the United States."

Chatti on Peace Mission

LD080942 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0814 GMT 8 Apr 82

[Text] [Excerpts] Kuwait, 8 Apr (KUNA) -- Habib Chatti, secretary general of the Islamic Conference Organization, in a statement published here today said that the Islamic Peace Committee which is trying to end the Iraqi-Iranian war will revisit the two countries this month at their request to continue the search for a formula to reconcile their stances.

Chatti told AL-ANBA' that there are some principles which Iraq and Iran have agreed upon with regard to solving the dispute between them. These are: "Acceptance of the mediation by the committee; to undertake in the future and after the war non-interference in each other's internal affairs; to recognize the nonacquisition of territories by force; and to recognize the principle of determining responsibility for the war between them."

However, he said the attitudes of the two countries "remain somewhat far apart." He said Iraq does not agree to a ceasefire before the opening of negotiations, while Iran considers that a ceasefire must precede negotiations.

We will return this month to the two sides, at their request, in the form of a restricted, but nonetheless high-level committee to continue the search for a reconciliation between these two stances.

Hammadi, 'Arafat Confer

JN061616 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1745 GMT 6 Apr 82

[Text] Baghdad, 6 Apr (INA) -- Iraqi Foreign Minister Sa'dun Hammadi met here today with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat. The meeting dealt in detail with the Iraqi-Iranian war and the role, efforts and good offices of the Nonaligned Movement toward ending this war and establishing peace between the two countries.

The meeting was attended by Salah 'Umar al-'Ali, Iraq's permanent representative at the United Nations.

KUNA REPORTS COMMUNIQUE ON UAE PRESIDENT'S VISIT

LD071734 Kuwait KUNA in English 1454 GMT 7 Apr 82

[Text] [Dateline, passage indistinct] Official talks between the two sides, headed by H.H. the amir and Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan centered on bilateral relations, the regional situation and global issues of common concern, the communique said.

The two sides expressed satisfaction over areas of constructive cooperation between the two countries and their continual progress in political, economic cultural and other fields, the communique added.

It expressed the two sides' determination to go on supporting such cooperation and expanding its horizons so as to fulfill the ambitions of the two sisterly states.

Kuwait and the UAE hailed the positive role played by the Gulf Cooperation Council in backing joint efforts and in consolidating the resources of the region's states in the face of threats and in preserving security and stability of the Gulf region against any external intervention, the communique said.

The two sides discussed the present Arab situation, particularly in connection with the Palestinian question in all its dimensions. They reviewed development of the popular uprising in occupied Arab territories and discussed prospects of countering Israeli persecution against Arab residents and Zionist plans to Judaize the West Bank and Gaza and to liquidate national leaderships there, the communique said.

The two states emphasized their backing to the "honorable struggle" of the Palestinian people led by the PLO and expressed hope that resolutions adopted by the recent conference of Arab foreign ministers in Tunis would be implemented, it added.

The communique expressed the two countries' denunciation of the attitudes of states that voted against the pro-Arab U.N. General Assembly resolutions calling for punitive measures against Israel and curbing Zionist expansionist schemes in the occupied lands.

The two sides reiterated that just and lasting peace in the region can only be established if Israel pulls out of all occupied Arab territories and the Palestinian people are restored their legitimate and national rights and set up an independent state on their own lands with Jerusalem as its capital, the communique said.

The communique asserted the two countries support to efforts to consolidate security and stability in Lebanon and to enforce its national unity.

It expressed hope that a common Arab strategy would be laid down to protect southern Lebanon and counter Israeli threats against that part.

The two sides highlighted the significance of Arab solidarity and the removal of obstacles that hamper joint Arab activities in various fields. They also expressed hope that the curtailed Fes summit conference would be resumed soon so that the Arab nation would be able to adopt positive resolution to counter fatal threats.

Reviewing current international developments, the two sides held identical views on all issues of common concern and expressed conviction that just peace and world security and stability cannot be reached unless all sides of the international community abide by the U.N. Charter and remove all types of international domination, the communique said.

Shaykh Zayid praised the considerable progress Kuwait has achieved on all economic and social fields under the leadership of H.H. the amir, the communique added.

Shaykh Zayid and the accompanying delegation expressed appreciation for the ovation they received on all levels. The UAE's head of state extended an invitation to H.H. the amir to visit the Emirates, according to the communique. H.H. the amir gratefully accepted the invitation. The date of the visit will be determined later, the communique added.

QATAR

JORDAN'S KING HUSAYN ARRIVES 6 APR

GF061652 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1304 GMT 6 Apr 82

[Text] Doha, 6 Apr (WAKH) -- His Majesty King Husayn of Jordan today arrived in Doha from Riyadh on a visit to Qatar. King Husayn was received at the airport by Amir of Qatar His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani, Heir Apparent and Defense Minister His Highness Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifah Al Thani and senior officials.

During the visit the Jordanian King is scheduled to hold talks with His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani dealing with developments of the situation in the Arab area and bilateral relations. King Husayn is accompanied by a high ranking delegation consisting of Prime Minister Mudar Badran, Chief of the Royal Court Ahmad al-Lawzi, Court Minister 'Amir Khammash and Commander-in-Chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces Lt Gen Zayd ibn Shakir.

Returns Home 6 Apr

GF061659 Doha Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 6 Apr 82

[Excerpts] Amir of Qatar His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani was foremost of those bidding farewell to his Brother His Majesty King Husayn ibn Talal of Jordan, who departed for home from Doha international airport at 1700 [1400 GMT] after concluding a short visit to Qatar.

The king was also seen off by the heir apparent and defense minister, His Highness Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifah Al Thani, in addition to shaykhs, ministers, the commander of the police, the heads of the Arab diplomatic missions accredited to Qatar, the deputy commander-in-chief of the Qatari armed forces and his assistant, top government officials and Jordanian Ambassador to Qatar Mr Khalid 'Ubaydat.

The official talks between Amir of Qatar His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani and his guest were held at 1530 [1230 GMT]. The talks were attended on the Qatari side by His Highness Shaykh Hamid ibn Khalifah Al Thani, heir apparent and defense minister; 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn Khalifah Al Thani, finance and oil minister; and Mr 'Isa Chanim al-Kuwari, information minister. Present on the Jordanian side were members of the Jordanian official delegation accompanying His Majesty King Husayn and Jordanian Ambassador to Qatar Mr Khalid 'Ubaydat.

QNA has learned that the talks dealt with current Arab and international issues and the situation in the area, in addition to the strong bilateral fraternal relations and the means of bolstering and reinforcing them in various fields.

CAIRO PAPER URGES ARAB ACCEPTANCE OF EGYPT

PM311427 Cairo AKHBAR AL-YAWM in Arabic 20 Mar 82 p 8

[Editorial]

[Excerpts] Every time the question of Egypt and the Arab world is raised Egypt affirms that it has not closed its doors on the Arabs. The Egyptian-Arab disagreement is a disagreement over policies, not strategies. The Arab nation, or rather most of its countries, have not refused dialogue with Israel in order to achieve peace; they are not hostile to the principle of peac nor have they denounced it. There are some who want dialogue with Israel through the United States and there are others who want dialogue with it through the Soviet Union. In other words, the principle of Arab-Israeli dialogue is agreed, but the difference is over the means and the methods.

Egypt today has relations and bridges with Israel. If any of the Arabs want to build bridges of dialogue with Israel through a major power that has relations with Israel why should the anticipated Arab-Israeli dialogue not be through Cairo? Why should the Arabs not trust Egypt with the responsibility of coordinating, preparing and conducting this dialogue? Is not Arab Egypt closer to the thinking of its nation than any distant superpowers? Is it not more aware of the nation's hopes and sufferings and, sharing the same fate and hopes, is not Egypt closer to the Arabs than the Eastern or Western forces?

World political conditions force the Arabs to come out of their stagnation and move toward the liberation of land and the restoration of rights. The influential world powers are preoccupied with their internal and external problems, and the international sympathy with the Arabs to help solve their problems with Israel is subject to various and many considerations. The Arabs will wait a long time for the East or the West to solve their problems with Israel, and this solution might never come. International conditions make it incumbent upon the Arabs not to stand and wait but rather to move and take the initiative in order to change the prevalent situation and put an end to the sufferings of those living in the occupied territories. The Arabs are losing and Israel is gaining. Yesterday Israel applied its laws to the Golan Heights. And today there are people in Israel who think of applying Israeli law to what they call "Judaea and Samaria," that is the West Bank and Gaza [as published]

Egypt has accepted peace, and in Israel they say they do not want war and talk a great deal about peace.

The Security Council resolution [presumably 242] which the majority of the Arab countries accepted recognizes peace, calls for its implementation and leads to the recognition of all the states in the area.

So what are the Arabs waiting for and why are they waiting? Why do the Arabs not give a mandate to Egypt, which cares for them most and which is closer to their feelings, to pave the way for them? Why should Cairo not be the gateway to dialogue instead of Moscow or Washington?

Some people may say that Egypt has become distant from the Arab nation. This is not true.

Egypt has not detached itself from its nation and has not distanced itself from it for a single moment despite the severance of relations with most of the countries. Egypt has defended Saudi Arabia's right to possess AWACS aircraft in order to defend its territory and the strategic area where it is located. Egypt has also defended the Arab Gulf states' right to security and peace. Egypt has agreed to help U.S. forces intervene and deploy from its territory in order to protect the Arab area around it if it is exposed to any communist or external danger.

Some people say that when Egypt chose peace it sacrificed its Arab relations. This is not true.

Egypt has not closed its gates on the Arab world. Egypt's return to the Arab world, as President Mubarak has affirmed and always affirms, is inevitable. The Arab world cannot do without Egypt, nor can Egypt do without its Arab nation. If Egypt has established relations with Israel it does not mean that it has closed the gate on the Arab nation. Egypt did not initiate hostility and did not sever relations. When it opted for peace as a way out for the area from tension and toward the horizons of peace it did not do so at the expense of its nation, nor was it renouncing its Arabism. It took the first step so as to pave the road for everybody and experienced great difficulties in order to prove that peace is possible, that all our Arab territories are sanctified and must all be returned.

Egypt did not talk only about Sinai, indeed it talked about the West Bank and Gaza and also the Golan. Egypt did not want a unilateral peace or a bilateral solution. It has aimed and is still aiming at a comprehensive, just and lasting peace that would take the whole area away from the state of hostility and hatred and toward the horizons of peace that is possible for everybody.

Despite the severance of relations Egypt's return to the Arab world is inevitable, it is a matter of time and is no longer far away. Whatever happens Egypt and the Arab world cannot do without one another. Egypt, as its leadership always affirms, belongs to all the Arab world, and the Arab world is invited to understand Egypt's situation.

The Arabs have realized the fact of Egypt's situation: It is understood in Saudi Arabia, in the Gulf region and in the Arab Maghreb. Everybody has expressed a welcome for Egypt's return to the Arab family, saying that there is no dispute with it. The latest of those who have spoken about Arab Egypt and the need to return to its nation was Bahrain Prime Minister Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman. He said that Egypt can return to the Arab family unconditionally; it is an undivisible part of its nation; the Arab nation cannot do without Egypt, many Arab governments hope for Egypt's return; and Egypt alone will decide the suitable time to do so.

This is the opportunity for the Arab nation to return to Egypt. The Arab nation has waited a long time searching for peace; it has looked to the West and to the East and the momentum has been very slow because of the intermingled and complex international problems.

Since the international intermediary that the Arabs are looking for is not prepared at present, since a move on its part is unlikely, and since progress is slow why do the Arabs not turn to Egypt, which is closer to them then anyone else?

Also, is not Egypt's success in restoring Arab territory of the Sinai an indication of the possibility of succeeding in retoring the rest of the Arab territories? Is not the Sinai's return to Egyptian sovereignty after 35 days a victory for the Arab nation, a victory that could signal the beginning of the restoration of the rest of the territories?

President Mubarak has offered this choice to the Arabs. Egypt can play the role of the major party in the dialogue for the restoration of Arab territories and Arab rights.

The Arab world, or its leaders, are today called upon to review the problem in its entirety. An objective and calm look will show the Arabs that they committed a wrong against Egypt when they severed relations with it and tried to isolate and blockade it. They were wrong when they thought that the solution of their problem could come from abroad. Egypt cares for them most and is the one that knows their aspirations and ambitions best.

The Arab nation today is called upon to understand Egypt's situation so that the error will not be repeated, and when this happens then there will be an Arab mandate for Egypt to move and to act.

QATARI DAILY INTERVIEWS PRESIDENT MUBARAK

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[Interview granted by President Husni Mubarak to AR-RAYAH Chief Editor Nasir Muhammad al-'Uthman and Managing Editor Salah ad-Dina Hafiz at the president's office in Cairo on 21 March 1982]

[Text] AR-RAYAH; Your Excellency, it is customary that journalists ask first about the events of the hour but we will break tradition and ask President Husni Mubarak about Husni Mubarak the human being -- how his first political steps and ideological concepts began, how he emerged from the October war as one of its heroes, and your relationship with late leader Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir, your experience in the military service and then the difference between this service and serving in political life.

President Mubarak: This question requires an entire book. I want to tell you that my dealings with late President Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir were not exactly a relationship. I was an officer in the armed forces and he was a revolutionary leader and, at that time, he was the leader of the nation who effected many changes in the region. But I did work with the late President Anwar as-Sadat, and thus it is on this basis that one can see both positive and negative practices and attempt to avoid the negative ones and correct them, attempt to correct the negative practices and proceed with the positive ones. And this does not mean a different line.

In the October war -- I am not going to talk about myself; I don't like to talk about myself; neither do I like to talk about these issues -- I was the commander of the Air Force. Praise be to God, we did fight in 1973 and exerted our maximum effort. Then it was fated that I was appointed vice president of the republic. And it was my fate to be elected president of the republic following the assassination of President Anwar as-Sadat. It is fate and circumstances which brought me to this place. Of course, there is a difference between military life and civilian life. The latter is totally different from the style of military life.

AR-RAYAH: The overwhelming majority of the Arab peoples feel that the era of alienation and discord with Egypt is about to end. Optimism is now the prevailant tone in order to restore comprehensive Arab solidarity particularly following your well-guided step of halting all attacks on the Arabs and even in view of leaking information about secret contacts with many Arab capitals. What is your evaluation of all this? What is your plan for Arab reconciliation? How can true solidarity be achieved and where must we really begin?

President Mubarak: Like all your questions, this is a compound question. Each question requires a book. In fact, it is my principle -- and this goes back to the days of late President Anwar as-Sadat -- that we must not attack the Arabs, but due to certain circumstances this happened. Why? He [As-Sadat] used to receive certain information and other things, God knows best. I don't wish to talk about this. However, I found that it is better -- and this is our method -- not to attack our Arab brothers, not to attack anyone, even those who abuse us, whether Arab or non-Arab. Although we don't abuse them or talk about them, many states abuse us. Never mind: Egypt is Egypt. We deal through our values and principles, which we shall never change and which no one can change.

Concerning the leakage of reports about secret contacts, I speak the truth: There are no secret contacts. If there were any, I would certainly mention them. All my contacts are in the open -- with His Majesty Sultan Qabus of Oman and His Excellency President Ja'far Numayri of Sudan. I contact them and exchange opinions with them on various issues.

Concerning the resumption of contacts with the Arabs, I don't intervene in the affairs of any Arab state but say that our doors are open. Our Arab brothers adopted resolutions during the Baghdad conference. I cannot talk about this issue but leave the door open to all circumstances. When the Arab states find the circumstances appropriate, we welcome them.

We do have relations with Israel. We sacrificed a lot. There are diplomatic relations that we cannot sever. We welcome any return on this basis. We offered much, suffered much and sacrificed much. This is our clear stand and we welcome our Arab brothers when they decide it is the appropriate time to come.

By Allah, I hope that Arab solidarity can be achieved because the Arab world today is as you see it. I believe that Arab solidarity has never existed except during the October war.

AR-RAYAH: Indeed, that was the highest degree of solidarity.

President: Our stand now -- and I am sorry for the Arab stand with regard to Egypt and the circumstances with the Arab states -- [is that] the current situation is saddening. I don't wish to proceed, talk much or expose anyone. You are better acquainted than I with the current Arab situation.

AR-RAYAH: Your Excellency, how can we overcome this situation?

President: The process is difficult because there are differences of opinion and one must not consider only himself. As long as everyone is considering only himself, we shall never reach Arab solidarity. No one can impose his will upon others. If we continue to be so, the Arabs will never unite.

AR-RAYAH: Your Excellency, it was said that during your visit to Oman Sultan Qabus was reconciling views between you and the GCC states or that he was mediating to normalize relations. How true is this?

President: This could have been an initiative from his majesty the sultan, but we did not talk about a mediation or anything of the sort. I believe that if the sultan did anything it would be inspired by Arab motives, but we did not agree on anything in particular because I don't wish to intervene and I don't wish to impose anything on anyone. Let us leave all this to circumstances that may suit our Arab brothers. I cannot say more than that. I welcome them all. Whether we accept it or not, Egypt is the refuge of every Arab. Whoever wants to come is welcome; it is his second country. Anytime he comes to Egypt it will welcome him. Even at times of alienation we never boycotted the Arabs or prevented them. We cannot prevent them from entering Egypt because we consider it their own country.

AR-RAYAH: In fact, Your Excellency, many statements by Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi and by a number of officials in some Arab capitals too said that the postponement of Fes conference until after the Israeli withdrawal on 25 April might help bring Egypt's flag back to flutter at the summit meeting. What is your opinion?

President: We must be truthful with ourselves. How can Egypt attend an Arab summit conference while a common ground does not exist? Disunity exists and relations are still severed. So how can Egypt go? There must be common ground in order for Egypt to go and contribute.

It is not all that simple. Egypt will not go to see someone stand up and attack it. Egypt doesn't like to attack anyone and will not allow itself to be attacked by anyone. There has to be a common ground for us to go to the summit.

AR-RAYAH: Perhaps, Your Excellency, Arab public opinion expects this common ground to form and the opportunity to arise after Egypt regains Sinai on 25 April. The situation will then become more appropriate and prepared for solidarity and restoring relations.

President: Yes. Some of our brothers say Egypt will return under certain conditions. We don't accept the word "conditions." We know where we stand and we know what we are doing. It was once said in one of the states -- and I don't want to mention names -- that when Egypt returns to Arab ranks it will abrogate the Camp David agreements and whatever is related to them. What does this mean? Does it mean I should give Sinai back to Israel, give the oil back to it and close the Suez Canal?

Abrogating Camp David would mean that all related issues are gone, including the autonomy talks. I want to tell the one that says such things that he does not want the question to be resolved.

Following all the talk and bitter sacrifices that we made to reach what we have reached, we are expected to cancel all that with a pen stroke and then sit down. After Egypt abrogates Camp David and all matters related to it, we shall see our land reoccupied. What logic is this? What sensible person would approve this?

Does it mean going back to war? That is impossible. We have chosen peace and have gone through negotiations. War has never solved a problem. Take the United States and Vietnam. It preferred to fight. Did war solve the problem? Never. They sat down at a table to negotiate. Let us be realistic and live in reality. Let us think of what to do on the basis of reality. We must not say abrogate Camp David and all matters related to it. What does this mean? And this decision is up to us.

Furthermore, we say that our relations with Israel may be very useful. When there are problems between Israel and any Arab state, we can talk, mediate and convey views and we can also ease the tension. You want us to continue alienation. Good. What next? And what comes after this long march we have made?

I don't believe that a single Egyptian could agree on such a thing.

AR-RAYAH: Your Excellency, in spite of all the gains Egypt has made from the peace process, there is still an Arab belief that Israel does not want peace. What is your opinion on this? Israel does not see that peace is in its interests, and there are those who say that the peace process to Israel in the long run is like war.

President: Listen to a theory that we have long been suggesting. We used to say it in Egypt for some time and even before the October war. But frankly this is useless. Let us be frank with ourselves. If Israel did not want peace, we could not achieve it. A state in such circumstances suspects everything, even that we shall do something after April.

A state that is surrounded by all the Arab states with everyone hiding in ambush for it will naturally be suspicious. If we were in its place, we would be suspicious too. We deceive ourselves. It is not true that peace will kill Israel. Nothing of this is true. Israel exists and is secured by the two superpowers. Will we be able to demolish it?

We want to live in reality and be frank with ourselves. We must not chase slogans in order not to lose everything. The only way before us is negotiation. All right, what have our Arab brothers done since the talks and the peace process began? They abused Egypt. They also abused Egypt after Camp David. None has made any effort with the friendly states in order to find a solution. All efforts were abuse for Egypt. Is abusing Egypt a solution?

We must be realistic and frank. We have sacrificed much and exerted much effort in the peace process. We sacrificed wealth and souls for peace.

AR-RAYAH: Your Excellency just mentioned an expression that is considered to be a new political expression. You said that Egypt is considered an altruistic or dialoguing party. Does this mean Egypt will intensify efforts after 25 April in order to achieve comprehensive peace, especially since a number of initiatives have been proposed such as the Saudi initiative?

President: Let us say something to you. Resolution 242 was issued, then Resolution 338 and many resolutions from international organizations were issued too. Did Israel implement any of them? None. The only thing it implemented and committed itself to was the framework of Camp David. No one could make it move without its agreement. Who will force Israel to accept Prince Fahd's initiatives? As long as it has not agreed on it, the initiative will not be implemented.

AR-RAYAH: Not even through U.S. pressure?

President: U.S. pressure? There we are. If Israel did not agree on the initiative, it will not be implemented and we have clear evidence before us. The entire world pressured it to implement Resolution 242 but it did nothing. The only proof we have before us is the framework of Camp David because there is a commitment in it and without this commitment Israel can do nothing.

AR-RAYAH: The first part of Camp David is the Egyptian-Israeli part and the second part pertains...

President: It concerns the Palestinians and the autonomy talks with which we are proceeding.

AR-RAYAH: But, Mr President, do you think Israel is convinced now of proceeding with the autonomy negotiations according to the Egyptian viewpoint?

President: We want to reach a declaration of principles, but nobody wants to help us. We get only complications. The Golan issue is getting complicated. Nobody wants to look for solutions. Nevertheless, negotiations on autonomy are still in progress and we will continue these negotiations.

AR-RAYAH: But these negotiations are faltering for the time being.

President: We know that the Israelis are "hard" negotiators but we should reach a declaration of principles. It's necessary, even if it takes 3, 4, 5 or 6 months, we will certainly reach a solution.

AR-RAYAH: Is there a specified time or not?

President: No, there isn't a specified period of time yet because this is the most difficult part of the problem, the essence. We, the Arabs, have been saying no to everything since 1948 until we reached the present situation. Will we say no again after we have arrived [at something]?

AR-RAYAH: Egyptian-PLO relations, close in the past, were severed after Camp David. The PLO is waiting for a new stand from you which would decide your policy on the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people and would renew your commitment to these rights. What do you say to the PLO?

President: I really do not see anything new. Who changed the Palestinian cause from a cause of refugees into a cause of people? Was it anyone else but Egypt? Has anyone revived this cause throughout the world except Egypt? Were not the war and all our problems for the sake of the Palestinian cause? All the disagreements between the Arabs and us, aren't they for the sake of the Palestinian cause? All the sacrifices, the October war and 50 billion Egyptian pounds we spent on the cause -- what for?

If these things had been for our land only, we could have restored it and reached an agreement long ago. What else do you want us to do? The autonomy negotiations, aren't they for the Palestinian cause? We work only for the cause. Tell me who is helping us on the cause.

I do not like to talk about our Palestinian brothers. We are talking about the Palestinian cause and the whole problem of ours is the Palestinian cause. We have sacrificed a great deal for the Palestinian cause. What clear line are you talking about after all? Is there any clearer line that that?

AR-RAYAH: Contacts are said to have taken place between the PLO and you recently. What is the nature of these contacts?

President: No contacts have been established between us. Yasir 'Arafat is still insulting us. I really don't understand.

AR-RAYAH: But Yasir 'Arafat has praised you, Mr President.

President: One day he praises and the next he insults. He says they hope the Eygptian Army and people will change the regime. Aren't we going to stop posturing? Was it not posturing that caused us this catastrophe?

AR-RAYAH: Mr President, there are reports that your upcoming visit to Israel will be on 25 April as the United States has suggested. Is that true?

President: Nobody suggested anything at all to us.

AR-RAYAH: What is your stand on this visit now?

President: Nothing. The stand now is that the visit date is unsuitable. However, a visit to Israel will take place on a date we agree on later.

AR-RAYAH: Will the date be after 25 April, for instance?

President: That's a strong possibility.

AR-RAYAH: And what about the visit to Jerusalem?

President: This is a matter of contention between Israel and us.

AR-RAYAH: In fact, this is a matter of principle. Your stand is appreciated by all countries and trends. By the way, you have convened the national security council to discuss problems relating to Israel and particularly the border and autonomy issues.

President: We have dealt with the entire situation and discussed all developments comprehensively, including disagreements over the bofder issue and the future of relations. We have discussed all these matters in the national security council.

AR-RAYAH: Some say the date of the Israeli withdrawal, 25 April is in danger due to the aggravation of Israeli-Egyptian relations. What is your opinion?

President: This means the matter is not that aggravated. The media always exaggerates everything.

AR-RAYAH: With a purpose, of course.

President: With or without a purpose, the media exaggerates the matter. But I don't believe the withdrawal will be delayed.

AR-RAYAH: What is your opinion and evaluation of the GCC and its future role in enriching Arab solidarity and in protecting the Gulf from foreign interference?

President: This matter is up to the GCC and I am not the one to ask about it. They themselves should decide whatever they want. They know their facilities and capabilities better than I.

AR-RAYAH: But Egypt is the eldest brother.

President: I haven't attended anything at the GCC and I do not know all the facts. Therefore, I cannot talk about it. Thus I am excused from talking on that subject.

AR-RAYAH: It seems that Libya is about to have several problems with the United States following the Gulf of Sidra incident, the U.S. oil boycott and the anti-Libya international campaign. Meanwhile, you have ordered the situation on the border downplayed. Therefore, what events are we to expect between Libya and the United States in western Egypt, and what is the present situation between Libya and Egypt?

President: Nothing.

AR-RAYAH: Nothing? You mean the situation is calm?

President: Nothing new. Only when I was visiting Europe and the United States they sent 26 Egyptian families across the border. I wondered about the timing of the procedure while I was abroad. This matter was broached during the era of the late president when they requested that Egyptians cross the border by land instead of detouring. However, I was surprised, while in France, to be told that 26 families were in wagons at the border. Of course, I couldn't tell them to return. Only this, but open the border? No. Anyhow, this was not repeated and I didn't want to exaggerate the matter.

AR-RAYAH: But we believe the situation is much calmer than before.

President: Calmer, because we will not fight with an Arab country and because our land will not be used against any Arab country. They themselves have shouted the slogan that the Americans will strike Libya from Egyptian airspace. This subject has not been mentioned, nor have we discussed it or had anyone tell us about it. It is only a matter of people creating a rumor to cause trouble. The United States hasn't told us about it. I do not know who hatches these false rumors.

AR-RAYAH: Tomorrow's Egypt -- This is the slogan of the day. How do you envisage tomorrow's Egypt on the domestic, Arab and international levels?

President: We are having a conference on tomorrow's Egypt, so leave this to the conference which will tell about it.

AR-RAYAH: Your hopes for Egypt, Mr President.

President: I want peace to prevail in the entire region. I always hope that after we have peace in the region we will strengthen our relations with all peace-loving countries, Arab or non-Arab.

AR-RAYAH: What about domestic problems?

President: The newspapers write about the domestic situation daily. Our problem is economic. If I talk about it they will say he will take, twist and turn the economy toward the East. I am not turning the economy toward the East at all. We are only orienting the matter and orienting the openness issue. So, instead of a consumptive, importing opennes, we are creating a productive openness. Our public sector is a public sector and a fundamental basis in this country. Our line will not change. We are only orienting the process.

AR-RAYAH: What about Arab investments in Egypt?

President: We haven't ever closed the doors to any Arab investments. There are many Arab brothers still working [in Egypt] now. Sometimes it slows and sometimes it prospers. However, this is left to the psychological state of the Arab brothers.

AR-RAYAH: A proposition has appeared in the newspapers, and specifically in the daily editorial of Prof Ahmad Baha' ad-Din, to hold a special conference to discuss and encourage Arab investors and solve their problems. Why does not Cairo sponsor such a conference officially?

President: Never mind. We hold conferences with any investor. Out of priority, we hold such conferences with our Arab brothers. We do not obstruct our Arab brothers at all.

We welcome any investment, for example, such as the cultivation of land according to the country's laws. We have great projects. Look at land cultivation in An-Nubariyah and As-Salihiyah as well as on the Cairo-Alexandria highway and in Al-Ismailiyah. Praise be to Allah, all these projects provide maximum production. Today As-Salihiyah exports its agricultural products. A fantastic accomplishment! You must visit As-Salihiyah. You will be astonished. It is a huge project that is completely mechanized. It is irrigated through the most modern showering techniques. All its agricultural processes are mechanized. The land is vast and its soil is virgin. It produces great amount of vegetables and citrus fruit. You must visit this project and see the new society.

AR-RAYAH: Your Excellency, you have stressed more than once that Egypt is a nonaligned state and in fact this stirred...

President (interrupting): It stirred questions?

AR-RAYAH: Not questions. It stirred a resurgence in the Nonaligned Movement in that Egypt may once again resume its leading role.

President: Egypt has always been a nonaligned state, whether during the era of President 'Abd an-Nasir or the era of President as-Sadat. We are one of the founders of non-alignment and we always attend its conferences. However, I want to say that we have special relations with the United States, economic and military relations. We preserve these relations and bolster them.

India is one of the founders of nonalignment and also has special relations with the Soviet Union, economic, military and all types of relations. What prevents us from being a nonaligned state that has strong relations with the United States? I must search out my country's interests. However, we don't enter alliances, neither Eastern nor Western.

AR-RAYAH: What about the military facilities for the United States? Are they continuing?

President: President as-Sadat granted these facilities and we see to it that these can be used if something happens to an Arab or Islamic state. But we don't grant bases for someone to settle in them forever. The matter has been clear since the time of President as-Sadat and I told them so clearly in the United States.

AR-RAYAH: Your Excellency, a final question: Would you like to address the Qatari people and the peoples of the Gulf through AR-RAYAH?

President: With my complete appreciation for Qatar, its government and people, I wish them all security, peace and progress.

AR-RAYAH: Thank you, Your Excellency, for your forebearance with our questions and may Allah help you and always guide you to success.

SAUDI DAILY INTERVIEWS BUTRUS GHALI ON ARAB TIES

GF071305 Ad-Damman AL-YAWM in Arabic 5 Apr 82 p 7

[Interview granted to AL-YAWM correspondent in Cairo by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali -- no date given]

[Text] [Question] What is your view of the period following the Israeli withdrawal next April? Do you expect essential changes in the Egyptian, Arab and Israeli stands?

[Answer] The complete Israeli withdrawal from all Egyptian Sinai is an important event. It will have a profound influence on the situation in the Middle East as a whole. The completion of the Israeli withdrawal and Egypt's complete regaining of its national soil will convince all sides in the region that negotiations can result in regaining rights through justice, faith and confidence, and that a dialogue can lead to positive results. Complete withdrawal from the Sinai will confirm what we said and announced at the start of the initiative, that what we aspire to is not an isolated peace with Israel or a joint agreement with it. Our goal is to achieve a comprehensive and just peace with Israel and to solve the problems of the Palestinians and of Syria, Lebanon and Jordan with Israel, which is a reality that cannot be denied or ignored in the region. Thus, I expect a positive development in the Arab stands not toward Egypt alone but also toward the peace process.

[Question] Can we say that there will be a change in the Egyptian stands following the Israeli withdrawal from Sinai on 26 April?

[Answer] The change will be in the direction of more enthusiasm to work for a comprehensive peace in order to benefit from the motivating force resulting from the success of the first stage of peace. Arab Egypt will double its efforts following 26 April to bring success to the autonomy talks, reach a satisfactory solution to the Palestinian question and convince the Arab states of the necessity of joining the peace process.

[Question] Does this mean that a rapprochement between Egypt and the Arabs will take place following the Israeli withdrawal from the Sinai in spite of strong Israeli apprehensions about this expected step?

[Answer] The completion of the Isreali withdrawl from Sinai is the most important issue before us at the present time. If a rapprochement is to take place, the Arabs must realize that what we have accomplished was the result of the peace agreements. They must submit that we shall continue the normalization of relations and the peace process with Israel and that we shall not change our policy with Israel for the sake of the Arab rapprochement. Hence, the Arabs must accept us as we are.

Egypt has announced it welcomes the restoration of friendly relations with the Arab states on the basis of their complete respect for our commitments toward the peace treaty. Egypt is an Arab state. This is a factual and historic reality and nothing can change this. Arab peoples and Arab feelings are not influenced by political disputes among governments. Thus, the natural situation is one in which good relations and cooperation between Egypt and the Arab states prevail. The objective analysis of matters indicates that the establishment of such relations will change the question of comprehensive peace in the Middle East. Thus, there is nothing for Israel to worry about because comprehensive peace is in Israel's interest as it is in the interest of the Arab peoples, especially those who have direct and current problems with Israel such as Syria, Jordan, Lebanon and, of course, the Palestinian people.

We wish to maintain good relations with Israel and reorganize our relations with the Arab world. If you take the states of the European Community as an example you find that they have good relations with both the Arab world and Israel. We want to pursue a policy that will strike a balance between these two fundamental elements.

[Question] Then you believe that the Israelis can coexist with an Arab-Egyptian reconciliation that may eventually be achieved?

[Answer] We are trying to explain to the Israelis how this can serve Israel's rapprochement with the Arab world. We can play the role of a complete partner in any future negotiations between Israel and the various Arab states. This is not new and it is included in the Camp David agreement. We also did it in the disengagement agreement between the Israeli and Syrian forces for instance.

[Question] Does this include the PLO and is it possible to imagine in spite of the known Israeli stands and the stands of the PLO's command that one day it will join the peace process?

[Answer] Naturally, Egypt is interested in contacting and consulting Palestinian leaders because we are convinced that no peace in the Middle East can be achieved without solving the Palestinian question in a manner that is acceptable to the Palestinian people. Israel must realize that it cannot choose which Palestinian party to negotiate with and that it is not for her to decide who represents the Palestinian people and who does not. Can you imagine, for instance, the Palestinians saying they don't want to negotiate with the Likud Party and that they prefer another party? Of course not; this is out of the question.

Concerning the Palestinians, I have no doubt that there are patriotic leaders within the PLO who are capable of storming through the hard way that leads to just peace, leaders who are capable of realizing that under all circumstances it is the Palestinian people's interests that must be considered and that the PLO exists in order to serve the Palestinian people. Egypt has demanded and is still demanding that each of the two parties should recognize the other. We shall continue our efforts in this regard because of our conviction that there will not be a comprehensive peace in the region without the participation of all the parties concerned and without the exchanged recognition of the legitimate rights of all parties, foremost of which are the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali, said: The principles contained in the Saudi peace plan are the epitome of Arab demands. Some of these principles are reasonable and others are controversial. The newest and most important point in the plan is the proposal that all countries in the region live in peace. Any initiative must be approved by the other party; in other words: What is the use of this initiative if Israel rejects it? Who will give back the occupied lands? It is the Israelis. Thus, their approval and also U.S. approval should be won. We, on our part, say, "Why not?" to the Saudi peace plan. We support the plan in accordance with our current commitments in the region. First we must take into consideration what has been achieved through the peace agreements. Secondly, we must win the approval of the parties concerned with the resolution of the whole problem.

[Question] We have been following developments. Washington has shown interest in the Arab peace plan. Will this weaken Egypt's efforts or block the Egyptian-Israeli peace process?

[Answer] Never. However, the real problem is: What is the practical side of the Arab plan? In other words: How can its principles be implemented? As far as the principles contained in the peace plan are concerned, it is very difficult to answer your question. But if we move from the principles to the practical side of the plan, we can discuss it.

[Question] So you do not have any doubts at this stage on Washington's view of the Arab peace plan?

[Answer] No. I was asked the same question 2 years ago. When the European initiative was proposed, the question was: Will you be disturbed by the duality of the European initiative and the Camp David agreements. Our answer was in the negative because since the two projects coincided with each other, they could reinforce each other.

[Question] What is the current situation in the autonomy talks?

[Answer] We want to continue the autonomy talks. It is our duty to continue these talks because through them we maintain the pace of the peace process. We hope we will come out with certain things for the Palestinians from the Israelis. These things are called "measures for confidence." For example, we will try to make Israel issue a political amnesty and we will try to move from the West Bank and make other countries hold joint meetings. We want to create a new political climate in the West Bank which would help the Palestinians have some confidence in the autonomy talks and would encourage moderate Palestinians to accept direct or indirect talks with us, the Americans and the Israelis. You may ask me: Have the Israelis agreed on this new rapprochement? I tell you briefly: We have been promised this. All concerned parties -- particularly Washington -- approve our rapprochement, which is based on discarding purely academic words and moving to practicalities which can be categorized into two groups: The first one concerns certain measures to give confidence to the Palestinians and the second one will be to exert more efforts -- through a committee set up for this purpose -- to hold constant contacts with the Palestinians in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

[Question] What are your hopes for the next peace stage?

[Answer] My first hope is that reason will overrule passion for the Arabs and Isaelis. I hope all will have the necessary moral power to face reality and abandon dreams. I hope all the Arabs and the Israelis will learn lessons and that we will have differences but not enmity, discussions but not fights.

I hope we will counter arguments with arguments and will be ruled by law and justice and not by arms. I hope Egyptian-Israeli relations will serve the peoples of the region by accelerating the process of comprehensive and just peace.

I hope reasonable people in the Arab world will know that Egyptian-Israeli relations do not mean that there are no differences of opinion between us or that we recognize Israel's claims to Jerusalem, the Golan and the West Bank.

I also hope we will not leave our peoples ruled by past animosities; I hope we will devote our efforts to construction, development and prosperity for the region's peoples who have suffered from wars, conflicts, divisions and crises for 30 years.

ARMED FORCES GENERAL COMMAND ISSUES COMMUNIQUE

Communique No 670

JN071709 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1625 GMT 7 Apr 82

[Text] Baghdad, 7 Apr (INA) -- The forward units in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab area struck the Persian enemy's positions and concentrations with all kinds of weapons, killing four and destroying one observation post and two vehicles.

Communique No 670 issued by the Armed Forces General Command put Iranian losses during the past 24 hours at 31 killed and 5 personnel carriers, 3 vehicles, 3 stockpiles of ammunition and 1 observation post destroyed.

The communique put the Iraqi forces' sacrifices for the same period at one martyr in all sectors. The following is the text of the communique:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Our valiant armed forces, which are celebrating the 35th anniversary of our glorious Ba'th [Party], renew their pledge to the people, nation and the courageous leader Saddam Husayn to continue offering sacrifices until inevitable victory is achieved, God willing.

The results of our armed forces' activities in the operational sectors yesterday evening and today were as follows:

1. Our forward units struck the enemy's positions and concentrations in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab area with all kinds of weapons, killing four and destroying two vehicles and one observation post.
2. One was killed and five personnel carriers and one stockpile of ammunition destroyed in the Bostan sector.
3. Two were killed in the Iranian area opposite to Panjwin. It was confirmed to us that 20 others were killed in this area in addition to those mentioned in our communique of yesterday.
4. Two killed in the Mimak area opposite our units in Sayf Sa'd.
5. One was killed and one vehicle and two stockpiles of ammunition destroyed in the Abadan area.
6. One was killed in the Nowsud area.

Thus, total known enemy losses were 31 killed and 5 personnel carriers, 3 vehicles, 3 stockpiles of ammunition and 1 observation post destroyed.

7. Our sacrifices: One martyr in all sectors.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 7 April 1982

GENERAL INTERVIEWED ON RECENT IRANIAN OFFENSIVE

JN072037 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1930 GMT 7 Apr 82

[Text] Baghdad, 7 Apr (INA) -- A high-ranking officer in the Iraqi Army announced here this evening that as a result of the Shush and Dezful battles late last month, the Persian enemy lost 23,643 dead.

In an interview screened on Baghdad television tonight, the officer said that the Persian enemy also suffered heavy losses in equipment, including 347 tanks, 150 armored troop carriers, 311 vehicles of various types, 14 planes including 8 helicopters, 15 fieldguns and large quantities of heavy and medium weapons.

The officer asserted that the Persian enemy was not able to achieve the objective of its attack on the Iraqi units in the Shush and Dezful sectors. He said that the enemy units were routed and suffered heavy losses in life, equipment and weapons during the attack.

The officer continued that the fierce battles which raged for 9 days along a 15-km front ended with heavy losses to enemy ranks. Furthermore, large numbers of enemy troops, including officers, fell into the hands of our valiant forces, he said. The officer said that the Persian enemy would never penetrate our positions or achieve any success no matter how it tries.

The officer, who is a major general, disclosed that the enemy had prepared and massed troops for this offensive for 2 months and that it relied on sheer manpower and its armored forces. He said that the enemy forces which took part in the fighting were: The 31st Infantry Division; an armored brigade; the 77th Infantry Division, which is a good basic division of the Iranian Army consisting of three brigades; and the 92d Armored Division. Various other enemy units also took part in the fighting, including two independent armored brigades, an independent infantry brigade consisting of four battalions, a tank regiment, an independent commando brigade, an independent paratrooper brigade consisting of five battalions and a tank regiment. This was in addition to the volunteers and Khomeyni guards, who were estimated at 12 brigades, and 25 artillery battalions. The officer said that about 700 tanks took part in the fighting.

The Iraqi officer said that the enemy had made all these large-scale preparations to avenge the heavy losses it had suffered in the Bostan battle and that the main objective of its large-scale offensive was to cross the Iraqi border, but the bravery of our forces foiled his designs.

Explaining the terrain of the battlefield, the officer said that the ground was rough in some areas and sandy in others [words indistinct]. Passes and high ground also limited the movement and maneuverability of the armored units, he said.

The Iraqi officer said: The bravery of our units and their good control of the situation foiled enemy plans and attempts to penetrate our positions and achieve success. The enemy was repulsed and suffered heavy losses, he said.

He stated that, at dawn on 20 March, the Iraqi forces launched a large-scale attack against enemy units in the Shush area, succeeded in achieving the objectives set for them and inflicted heavy losses in life and equipment on the enemy as well as a large number of prisoners. He added that, at dawn on 22 March, the enemy launched a large-scale attack on our units in the Dezful area. Our forces, however, succeeded in checking the attack and fierce battles took place in the areas of (Jisr al-Ghadiri), Emamzadeh 'Abbas and ('Ayn Khosh). Another attack launched by the enemy against our units in the Shush area was repulsed and the enemy was forced to halt.

On 24 March, the enemy launched another large-scale attack against the flanks of our units in the Shush area and concentrated its attack against the (?Ragheyveh) area. A fierce battle took place and the enemy was foiled. He said Iraqi forces launched a counterattack against Iranian units and battles continued to rage all through 25 and 26 March in all sectors.

The Iraqi general said that, at dawn on 27 March, the enemy tried to develop its attack to achieve the objectives that had been set for it in the (Ragheyveh) area and the radar plateau. Steadfastness of our units in all positions and their control of the situation, however, foiled the enemy's designs against these two places.

The Iraqi general said the Iraqi Armed Forces Command ordered the units in the area on 27 March to change their positions and to occupy new positions inside Iranian territory. These orders were carried out and the occupation of the new positions was completed on 29 March.

The Iraqi general said that, during this battle, Iraqi forces inflicted heavy losses in life and equipment on the enemy and maintained their presence inside Iranian territory in this sector.

The Iraqi forces' sacrifices were offered as the price for the defense of the homeland's honor and the nation's dignity. He stressed that the Iraqi forces enjoy high morale and great confidence in achieving victory under President Saddam Husayn's leadership. He also spoke about our air force's complete control of the skies over the battle and said that the Iraqi units are present deep inside Iran in cities and villages such as (Akhani Sheykhan), (Pashmakh), (Degwar), Maraneh, Nowsud and (Susheneh) in the northern sector and in Qasr-e Shirin, Sumar and Mehran, in addition to Sar-e Pol-e Zahab and Gilan-e Gharb in the central sector and Hoveyzeh, Al-Muhammarah [Khorramshahr] and the outskirts of Abadan, Ahvaz, Khafajiyah [Susangerd] and Bostan in the southern sector.

SYRIA CELEBRATES BA'TH PARTY'S 35TH ANNIVERSARY

JN071629 [Editorial Report] Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic in a hookup with Syrian television at 0900 GMT on 7 April carried a live broadcast of a speech rally held at the Damascus Universary auditorium on the 35th anniversary of the Arab Socialist Ba'th party attended by President Hafiz al-Asad.

The rally was addressed by the representatives of the Progressive National Front in Syria; the Democratic National Front in Iraq, an anti-Iraqi organization based in Damascus; the Jordanian Communist Party; the Algerian FLN; the Libyan General People's Congress; the Lebanese National Movement; the Palestinian revolution and the Syrian Arab Socialist Ba'th Party. The speakers hailed the Ba'th Party's role in the Arab liberation movement and Syria's steadfastness against foreign plots and in defense of Arab rights everywhere.

Jordanian Communist Party representative Samir Haddad began to speak at 1010 GMT. He praised the joint struggle waged by the Ba'thists and the Jordanian national movement since the 50's, noting that the "1957 reactionary coup" resulted in the imprisonment of several strugglers in Jordan. Haddad criticized Saudi Crown Prince Fahd's Middle East plan and Jordan's decision to dispatch volunteers to Iraq.

Lebanese National Movement spokesman Walid Junblatt delivered his speech at 1105 GMT. He briefly referred to Syria's struggle for Arab unity and role in preventing the partition of Lebanon.

At 1115 GMT, speaking for the Palestinian revolution, Fatah second-in-command Salah Khalaf emphasized the strategic relationship between the Palestinians and Syria, saying that Syria is being subjected to foreign plots and pressure due to its full support for the palestinian revolution. Referring to current calls "in the Arab Gulf and elsewhere" for Egypt's return to the Arab fold, Khalaf said: "To us, Husni Mubarak is an extension of the As-Sadat regime. Therefore, there can be no return to Arab solidarity with Husni Mubarak so long as he carries on his shoulders the Camp David accords and the treaty of humiliation and shame -- the peace treaty with Israel." Khalaf concluded his speech by pledging that the Palestinian revolution, the Lebanese National Movement and the Arab Steadfastness and Confrontation Front led by Syria will not kneel down to Menahem Begin, but will continue the struggle until the liberation of Palestine.

The Syrian Ba'th Party speech was delivered by 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the party. Al-Ahmar began his speech at 1140 GMT. He hailed party strugglers who were martyred for the sake of the victory of the Arab liberation movement. He then reviewed the party's struggles and achievements since its foundation on 7 April 1947. Al-Ahmar said that the current U.S.-Zionist-reactionary onslaught was aimed at carrying out the Camp David plot against Syria.

Al-Ahmar attacked Egyptian President Husni Mubarak's policy, which he described as a continuation of his predecessor Anwar as-Sadat. "Some agent forces and regimes," he said, "are trying to beautify the image of the Egyptian regime of Husni Mubarak, who is following the treasonous course of his predecessor As-Sadat."

Touching on the Iraqi-Iranian war, Al-Ahmar said that this war, which was started by the fascist rightist regime of Saddam Husayn, "has sapped energies, wasted potentials and squandered capabilities. It diverted all these resources from the primary objective of facing imperialism and Zionism, liberating the land and restoring Arab rights." Al-Ahmar added that "U.S. imperialism has used this war as another pretext to beef up its expansionist military presence in the Gulf area and the Arabian Sea."

Al-Ahmar reiterated Syria's determination to resist the Camp David accords and all other schemes and pressures. He said: "The movement of the Muslim Brotherhood gangs and the escalation of their criminal acts, particularly in recent times, with the support and instigation of U.S. imperialism, the Iraqi and Jordanian regimes and other colluding reactionary forces, were only a link in the chain of intensive plots against Syria's steadfastness and the firm, principled, national and pan-Arab policy pursued by our party and revolution in Syria under the leadership of struggler Comrade Hafiz al-Asad."

Al-Ahmar stressed Syria's adherence to Arab solidarity which aims at the liberation of Arab territory and the restoration of usurped Arab rights. He said, "We sincerely call on all factions of the Arab liberation movement to begin a serious, democratic and frank dialogue among themselves on the basic issues concerning Arab struggle."

Touching on Lebanon, Al-Ahmar said: "Regarding the position of our party and country on Lebanon, we would like to reaffirm our determination to achieve Lebanese national accord on the basis of preserving Lebanon's sovereignty, independence, Arabism and unity of both territory and people as well as severing all forms of dealing with the Zionist enemy. As in the past, we will extend our hands to cooperate with the fraternal Lebanese people and its National Movement, the Amal movement, and all Lebanese patriotic forces and elements. We will struggle with them for the sake of a unified Arab democratic Lebanon."

Speaking about Syrian-Palestinian relations, Al-Ahmar said: "We cannot but also reaffirm the ties of strategic alliance between the party and its revolution in Syria on the one hand and the Palestinian revolution on the other and reaffirm our support for the Palestinian people's struggle under the leadership of the PLO, their sole legitimate representative. In this respect, we consider the issue of unifying the various Palestinian revolution groups, consolidating their unified stand and strengthening their joint action on the basis of fighting and foiling the Camp David conspiracy and all other capitulatory plans -- with all their links, phases and substitutes -- a crucial one and an unshakeably solid basis for seizing the Palestinian people's rights."

Al-Ahmar said Syria is not alone in its struggle. He added: "The friendly forces in the socialist bloc countries, headed by the USSR, which which we agree and ally ourselves, constitute a strong support for our struggle. Cooperation between Syria and the USSR is strengthening and developing continuously toward the level of a strategic alliance, because this is the only way to face the U.S.-Zionist alliance. This alliance to which we aspire will, of course, be an important helping factor, but it also depends on the existence, cohesion and efficacy of the intrinsic power of the Arab liberation movement."

Al-Ahmar concluded his speech at 1235 GMT after hailing the heroic struggle of the Arab people in the occupied territory of the Golan, the West Bank and Gaza. Al-Ahmar made no reference to Israeli threats against the PLO or troop movements in south Lebanon. The various speeches were interrupted by anti-Iraq and anti-Jordan slogans from the crowds in the auditorium.

At 1246 GMT, the master of ceremonies announced that President Hafiz al-Asad, secretary general of the Ba'th Party, received greetings and solidarity cables on the occasion from the CPSU Central Committee; the Bulgarian Communist Party Central Committee; Nicolae Ceausescu, secretary general of the Romanian Communist Party; the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party Central Committee; the Czechoslovak Communist Party Central Committee; the Korean Workers Party Central Committee; Cyprus EDEK leader Vassos Lissaridhis; the leader of the Maltese Labor Party; the Portuguese Communist Party Central Committee; the French Communist Party; and other international organizations. The live broadcast ended at 1143 GMT.

BA'TH PARTY DELEGATION RETURNS FROM VIETNAM

JN071504 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0855 GMT 7 Apr 82

[Text] Damascus, 7 Apr (SANA) -- A Ba'th Party delegation headed by Comrade Muhammad Zuhayr Mashariqah, Ba'th Party Regional Command assistant secretary general, returned to Damascus last night following a visit to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam during which the delegation attended the Fifth Conference of the Vietnamese Communist Party.

At the conference, Comrade Mashariqah delivered the Ba'th Party's speech in which he conveyed the greetings of comrade struggler Hafiz al-Asad, Ba'th Party secretary general and president of the republic, the Ba'th Party Command and of the Syrian Arab people to the Vietnamese Communist Party command and the heroic Vietnamese people.

In his speech, Comrade Mashariqah stressed the importance of solidarity between the Ba'th Party and the Vietnamese Communist Party and between the two friendly peoples. He praised the achievements under the leadership of the Vietnamese Communist Party over [words indistinct]. He also praised the speedy steps adopted on the road to economic construction in Vietnam.

Comrade Truong Chinh, chairman of the Vietnamese National Assembly standing committee, earlier received the Ba'th Party delegation under Mashariqah. The two sides held friendly talks which reflect the strong friendship and cooperation between the two countries. At the end of the meeting, Comrade Truong Chinh asked Comrade Mashariqah to convey his greetings to [word indistinct] and to the Syrian Arab people.

VOL ON TENSION IN ALEPPO; TWO SOVIETS KILLED

NC071331 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 7 Apr 82

[Text] Four persons, including two Soviet experts, have been killed in Aleppo. Strong explosions occurred at night and turmoil prevails along the Syrian-Iraqi border.

According to new reports received by the Voice of Lebanon, armed members of the Muslim Brotherhood yesterday afternoon laid an ambush and killed Ba'th Party official Muhammad Qarsitah while he was walking in Barun street [in Aleppo] which has since been cordoned off by the [Syrian] special squads. The sound of strong explosions was heard at night.

Two Soviet experts have been killed in an armed ambush in the Euphrates Dam area.

Members of the special squads are still cordoning off Al-Kallasah and Bab an-Nayrab localities [in Aleppo] with tanks and heavy guns while their search for members of the Muslim Brotherhood continues.

The reports add that a tense situation, which could develop into a military explosion, prevails along the Iraqi-Syrian borders.

A large demonstration was staged in Aleppo today. Women and children took part in the demonstration. They raised their voices demanding the return of the men whose whereabouts have been unknown since the battles in Hamah and elsewhere. The main roads in the city have been cut off since.

Ar-Rastan township near Homs was today isolated from nearby cities and villages. Syrian security men raided houses in this township in search for members of the Muslim Brotherhood.

AMBASSADOR ARENS ON U.S. POLICY TOWARD ISRAEL

TA071330 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 7 Apr 82 p 3

[Yehoshu'a Bitzur report]

[Text] "In Washington today they say that compared to the hawkishness of Moshe Arens, Prime Minister Menahem Begin looks like a white dove. This is one of the advantages I enjoy as ambassador," Israeli Ambassador to the United States Prof Moshe Arens joked yesterday. He said this while giving his first briefing on how the wind is blowing in the U.S. administration to the Knesset Defense and Foreign Affairs Committee, which he chaired until recently.

Ambassador Arens stressed that the U.S. administration knows well that Israel will not tolerate attacks by terrorist organizations and that any cease-fire violation will compel Israel to take action.

Replying to questions by committee members, Arens said a U.S. pressure campaign after the Sinai withdrawal was not to be expected. Washington would not want to harm Israel and force it to accept U.S. positions, he said. But at the same time Washington's position depends on the intensity of pressures exerted on it by the Arab states it has friendly relations with. Unless the Egyptians, Jordanians and Saudis turn the screws all the way, excessive U.S. pressure against Israel is not foreseeable. If the Arabs bring unreasonable pressure to bear, we will have to ready ourselves to counter them, Professor Arens said.

According to Ambassador Arens, Washington still regards the Camp David accords as the common denominator for achieving further agreements. In this context, Arens explained that the Reagan administration differed from Carter's in that Reagan was much more firm and not preoccupied with individual rights and that, therefore, for him the Palestinian cause did not carry decisive weight. Arens also noted that sympathy for Israel was growing in U.S. public opinion and in Congress because of our numerous concessions and because of the internal pressure under which the Israeli Government is laboring. Many senators and congressmen identify with us both ideologically and in consideration of common interests. Arens was particularly impressed by a talk he had with Vice President George Bush, on whose part he sensed great sympathy for us.

At the same time Ambassador Arens maintained that it is sometimes difficult to cope with the pressure exerted by the vast and many-tentacled wealth of the Arabs. According to Arens even numerous administration officials today confess that we were right to extend help to the Christians in Lebanon, although the Americans had expressed reservations over this assistance more than once.

Ambassador Arens sees as a source for concern the tremendous amount of arms that the United States is funneling now into Saudi Arabia and Egypt in order to increase its influence in the Arab world and foster pro-American sympathy there. Even the Americans now admit to having no plan for removing the Syrian missiles from Lebanon.

Knesset Member Shlomo Hilel asked how it was that U.S. envoy Philip Habib declared that the cease-fire agreement in southern Lebanon required a cessation of actions from all directions, while the "State Department" 2 days ago stated that the murder of the Israeli diplomat in Paris was not to be viewed as a violation of the agreement. This, he said, is a whittling down of Habib's declarations.

Ambassador Arens answered that Washington wants to calm both Israel and the Arabs and that every announcement by the State Department's spokesman should not be regarded as a "Magna Carta."

On the postponement of U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger's visit, Arens said it was not politically motivated, but rather, had to do with the U.S. defense secretary's packed schedule.

On the memorandum of understanding, Arens said that it was suspended and that Israel would make no initiative to revive it since that was a U.S. matter.

Ambassador Arens said with special emphasis that U.S. Jewry stands firmly behind the state of Israel and dismissed as unfounded reports that there are cracks in this bulwark of identification.

GOREN INTERVIEWED ON MISSION TO WASHINGTON

TA071628 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 7 Apr 82 p 2

[Report on interview with Chief Rabbi Goren by correspondent Menahem Michaelson on 6 April: "Goren: 'Reagan Told Me: If There Were No Israel, We Would Have To Send Troops to the Middle East'" -- place not given]

[Excerpts] "'If there were no state of Israel in the Middle East, the United States would have to dispatch large, special forces to the region to set up bases to defend Western interests.' These are the words U.S. President Ronald Reagan spoke to me during our meeting in Washington," said Chief Rabbi Shlomo Goren yesterday as he divulged some of the details of his meeting.

In an interview with YEDI'OT AHARONOT, Rabbi Goren noted that the U.S. President reemphasized the U.S. commitment to the peace and security of Israel, and that he spoke warmly of Prime Minister Menahem Begin, whom he referred to three times during the discussion as "my dear friend, Menahem."

"Following the directives of Prime Minister Menahem Begin, I stressed to the President the tremendous sacrifices Israel is making for the sake of peace with Egypt: the return of 3/4 of post-1967 Israeli territory; the uprooting of settlements; and the relinquishment of the oil and airfields. At the explicit request of Begin, I said that all this had caused a terrible trauma -- I used the world trauma -- in Israel. Never before has a country, victorious in all the wars that there forced upon it, been sufficiently obliging to give back everything.

"On hearing these words, the President responded forthwith: 'I know that you are going through a traumatic process in withdrawing from Sinai, and I know that we are bound to our alliance with the state of Israel.' I told him that the Western world has no regard for our concessions, and he said that the United States would abide by the Camp David accords all the way.

"The next point I spoke about," continued Rabbi Goren, "was the great danger -- not only to Israel, but to the entire Western world -- inherent in the existence of a Palestinian state. If, God forbid, such a state was ever established, it would be the Cuba of the Middle East.

"The President nodded his head as if to agree and said, 'We have not demanded the establishment of a Palestinian state.' I went on to say that such a small country could not be divided again. The Arabs are a minority and we are a majority; and a minority must learn to live with a majority. If the Italians living in the United States, I asked him, were to seek an independent state on U.S. territory, would you let them? Israel, for its part, is prepared to grant the Arab inhabitants completely equal rights, including the right to Israeli citizenship and the right to vote for the Knesset. There is only one right we will not give them: the right to destroy us. At this, the President remarked, 'I am afraid they (the Arabs, if they became citizens of the state) might become a source of troubles for Israel.' Then, I told him, 'Judaea and Samaria are the heart of Israel, Jerusalem the mind. And it is impossible to separate the heart from the mind.'"

On the supply of weapons to the Arab states, Reagan said, according to Goren: "we will not provide arms to any Arab state until we know that it recognizes Israel's right to exist, and until we know that by giving arms that state can be moved towards a peace agreement."

At this point Rabbi Goren remarked that the Saudis received sophisticated weaponry -- the AWACS -- which even Israel does not possess. He said that Reagan stated that it is a fact that these weapons have brought the Saudis closer to the interests of peace, which is reflected in their positive position and in their having used their influence to help arrange a cease-fire with the terrorists in Lebanon.

"I told him," Goren added, "that 'by this they did not do us a favor. What they succeeded in doing was to save the PLO, since if it were not for the cease-fire the terrorists would have been completely destroyed. This was a favor to us? They need this cease-fire more than we do.'"

According to Goren, Reagan was surprised to hear this argument. The chief Rabbi of Israel continued [to Reagan], "If they are strong, they will never recongize us. As-Sadat realized that it was impossible to defeat the Israeli Defense Force and take Sinai by force of arms. Therefore, he decided to take the step he took. Had he had any chance of beating Israel he would not have made peace. And here you are giving arms to the Arabs."

What was the secret matter?

Rabbi Goren: "A very important matter for the state, which has cropped up recently. I cannot say more than that. The discussion with Reagan on this point was brief, and I brought back a most positive and heartening response. Haig asked me not to publicize the matter, and so I am not."

When will this matter be made public?

Rabbi Goren: "Everything depends on the government."

The meeting with the U.S. President lasted 21 minutes, and the general impression Rabbi Goren got of Reagan was: "He comes off as a nice man, with a heart, and he wants to be a friend of the State of Israel. That he was an actor? No, I did not notice any signs of that -- he really spoke from the heart."

POLITICAL SOURCES SAY U.S. MAY HEIGHTEN PRESSURE

TA071021 Tel Aviv HATZOFE in Hebrew 7 Apr 82 p 1

[Text] The United States may step up pressure to have Israel agree to the setting up of a Palestinian state in Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip, our correspondent has learned from highly reliable political sources.

The same sources said U.S. President Ronald Reagan has stressed in discussions with political officials that only by the setting up of a Palestinian state can the Mideast conflict be resolved.

President Reagan, the sources noted, is not inclined to accept the view that a Palestinian state would of necessity be a Soviet outpost in the Middle East.

According to the sources, President Reagan raised the main points of this policy of his before senior Israeli officials, and hinted to them that their nonacceptance of a Palestinian state may create numerous difficulties for Israel.

It may be assumed that Israel's ambassador to the United States, Moshe Arens, who has arrived in Jerusalem for consultations, will discuss these developments with the prime minister, the foreign minister and others.

Political circles also have pointed to reports published yesterday according to which the White House is hinging economic assistance to Israel on future developments in Judaea, Samaria and the Golan Heights. These circles see in this report more than a hint of pressure from Washington in the near future.

This development is to be viewed with gravity, contend the political circles, despite hints transmitted to Jerusalem during the last 2 weeks from Washington on the latter's willingness to revive the "memorandum of understanding," which was suspended following Israel's decision to apply its law in the Golan Heights.

U.S. Ambassador to Israel Samuel Lewis even met this week with senior Foreign Ministry officials and discussed with them Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger's visit, which it to take place at the beginning of the summer.

As is known, Weinberger had announced the abrogation of the "memorandum of understanding." However, Secretary of State Alexander Haig relayed a message to Prime Minister Menahem Begin saying that the "memorandum of understanding" between the two states was still valid.

Weinberger's visit to Israel, it is said, will provide an opportunity for renewing the "memorandum of understanding" on strategic cooperation between Israel and the United States.

CURFEW IMPOSED ON REFUGEE CAMP NEAR NABULUS

TA071154 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 7 Apr 82

[Text] A curfew has been imposed on the Balatah refugee camp near Nabulus after a handgrenade was thrown at a tourist group visiting Be'er Ya'aqov. A nun was seriously wounded and after initial medical treatment in (Refidiyah) hospital was transferred to Kefar Sava hospital. The grenade thrower escaped toward the Balatah refugee camp.

A large bomb discovered at another tourist site in Nabulus -- the Joseph tomb -- was safely dismantled.

'RIOTS' REPORTED IN BETHLEHEM, BAYT SAHUR

TA072012 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 7 Apr 82

[Text] There were serious riots in Bethlehem and Bayt Sahur this evening. Hooligans broke into the local college in Bethlehem and beat up people who were staying there. The dean and the gatekeeper of the college were injured, among others. Hooligans broke into the Orthodox Club and a local cafe in Bayt Sahur, destroyed equipment, attacked the people present and fired shots in the air. Inhabitants of Bethlehem and Bayt sahur accuse members of the village leagues of having perpetrated the attack. However, military sources claim that the riots erupted against a criminal background.

Our correspondent Pinhas 'Inbari notes that people opposed to the village leagues are active in the Orthodox Club. Bayt Sahur Mayor Hanna al-Atrash has recently received a threatening letter signed by the village league warning him not to support the PLO. Similar letters were received by other personalities in the territories, including Bethlehem Mayor Ilyas Frayj and the editor of ASH-SHA'B, Akram Haniya, who has been confined to his home in Ramallah under orders of the Military Government.

The mayor of Bayt Sahur has sent a cable to the defense minister demanding that the members of the village leagues be disarmed.

[Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew at 0600 GMT on 8 April adds: [The head of the Bethlehem area village league, Bishara Qimsiyah, also denies the area league's involvement in the riots. Qimsiyah said this charge is groundless and is intended to damage the good reputation of the area village leagues. According to him the arms carried by the area village league members are intended for self-defense only.]

EGYPT'S MUBARAK PROMISES TO AID IRAQ IN WAR

TA071227 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 7 Apr 82

[Text] Egyptian President Husni Mubarak has apparently promised Iraqi President Saddam Husayn to help Iraq in its war against Iran and, among other things, to send Egyptian volunteers to Iraq after Israel completes its withdrawal from the Sinai. This is reported by our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer. In return for Egypt's military aid the Iraqi president promised that full diplomatic relations with Cairo will be resumed. There have been recent urgent contacts between the two countries on this issue after three Iraqi divisions were severely mauled in the war with Iran.

Political sources in Jerusalem told our correspondent that the Egyptian administration had promised that the renewal of relations with Arab countries will not come at the expense of Israel.

EGYPTIAN ENVOY ON BILATERAL TIES, MUBARAK VISIT

TA071957 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 7 Apr 82 pp 6, 7 Holiday Supplement

[Interview with Egyptian Ambassador to Israel Sa'd Murtada by Dorit Gefen -- date and place not given]

[Excerpts] Question: Earlier, you mentioned Israel's concern for security. You are probably aware of the fears afflicting many Israelis -- including those who happily welcomed the peace -- that Egypt might change direction after Israel completes the withdrawal from the Sinai. Are these fears unfounded?

Answer: Egypt and Israel have signed a peace treaty and that is a fact. You harbor very high expectations. You want to receive a lot and at once. The normalization which has been achieved can be compared to an unfilled glass of water. We in Egypt say: Look, we have already filled 2/3. Whereas you, in Israel, say: 1/3 of the glass is still empty! It is a matter of mentality. At the same time, it is only natural that you should ask yourselves now that you are evacuating the entire Sinai whether Egypt will pursue the normalization. Well, I must say that Egypt will indeed go ahead with it, that is certain. After all, we chose peace. We did not just make a promise to retreat from; there is a document, there is an international agreement which was not only signed by the heads of state but which was also ratified by the legislative houses of both countries. Also, one should not forget the senior partner, the great friend of both countries -- the United States. This is a question of an international commitment. If for one moment you should believe that Egypt will not fulfill its commitment, you would, in my opinion, be making a great mistake. Egypt will fulfill its commitment and normalization will proceed.

Question: In your opinion, what is the reason for our fears?

Answer: You say: Let us assume that Egypt does not like some Israeli policy -- will it have an impact on normalization? I will tell you: Even before 25 April such a policy had an impact on normalization. For example, there was certain cooperation in the field of agriculture. When former Agriculture Minister Dr Da'ud came here he was very impressed by your agricultural technology. Out of his desire to establish cooperation, the Israeli agriculture minister at that time, Ari'el Sharon, decided to participate in two projects for the introduction of modern agricultural technology to Egypt and to send Israeli experts to advise on its use. The experts arrived in Egypt and began working. However, at that time, Israeli destroyed the nuclear reactor in Iraq and cooperation was suspended and has to date not been resumed. We did not wait until after 25 April to stop this cooperation.

Question: Namely, Egypt might use normalization as a means to protest Israel's policy?

Answer: Things should be said clearly. The Israeli Government is certainly free to adopt any decision. However, when Israel decided, for example, to apply Israeli law to the Golan Heights the world considered this as annexation and it was not only Egypt that denounced it and expressed reservations about this move. It was denounced by the Arab countries. The entire world criticized Israel -- the United Nations and even the United States. If you think that because of peace Egypt will not criticize such a decision, you are wrong.

Question: Earlier I mentioned Israel's fears. The suspension of President Mubarak's visit does not help placate these fears. Will the visit take place and will it also include Jerusalem just as other presidents -- Carter, As-Sadat, Mitterrand -- did?

Answer: There is a misunderstanding here. Jerusalem is a unique city. It is not just the capital of Israel. Jerusalem is holy to Muslims, Christians and certainly to the Jews. It is a city that should have brought love and grace between the nations rather than cause quarrels and conflicts. Yet, what is happening? Israel regards Jerusalem as its capital -- but which other governments recognize this fact? Even the United States has its embassy in Tel Aviv. President as-Sadat went to Jerusalem before Israel passed the Jerusalem law. He visited Israel afterwards but he went to Haifa, Beersheba and Ofira; he did not go to Jerusalem after that law was passed.

Question: Yet, one gets the impression that President Mubarak is avoiding a visit to Israel.

Answer: President Mubarak is willing to come to Israel; he has never said "no." He is definitely willing to come and hold talks here. However, he is not ready to go to Jerusalem in the wake of the Jerusalem law. Incidentally, this law was severely criticized by all countries. Moreover, in the wake of this law embassies that had been located in Jerusalem -- belonging to some South American countries and the Netherlands -- were moved.

Question: A visit to Jerusalem does not necessarily imply recognition as the Israeli capital. Mubarak can come to Jerusalem and present his position. The current situation is interpreted as a boycott.

Answer: We are not boycotting Jerusalem. There had been constant contacts until Minister Shamir returned from Cairo and the Israeli Government suddenly published an announcement to the effect that either President Mubarak comes to Jerusalem or he should not come at all. This announcement pushed us into the corner.

Question: Should I infer that President Mubarak's visit has been cancelled or merely postponed?

Answer: I can only say that the possibility of a visit by the Egyptian president remains open; it has not been canceled. The president is willing to come but he will not accept a dictate to either come to Jerusalem or not to come at all.

COMMENTARY ON SCENARIO FOR WAR IN LEBANON

TA071739 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 7 Apr 82 p 11

[Zeiev Schiff commentary]

[Text] It is truly amazing to see how we have grown apathetic to the possibility of a war's breaking out soon in the north between Israel, Syria, the terrorists and even other elements. Politicians and generals talk about it as if it were a happy outing to a picnic; people write about it as if it were the war for others and our own blood were not involved.

The view is that a war is inevitable, that it must break out. Such a war being in the cards, there is no talk about how to prevent it or how to neutralize the immediate factors accelerating its outbreak. I wonder whether this apathy stems from fatalism, political fatigue and carelessness or from overconfidence that in any event victory is in Israel's pocket. Both possibilities are bad and we might sober up from both of them in the face of the bitter reality and be dealt a national blow.

I fear that few people really feel that the chance of getting involved in Lebanon is no smaller than the chance of victory and perhaps even outdoes the chance of victory. We may win on the battlefield and get bogged down in a mess from which it will be very difficult to get out. Many factors operate in the Lebanese arena: the Syrian Army; Christians who oppose us and Christians who are willing to cooperate with us; the terrorists; UNIFIL; Haddad's men; Shi'ite forces; and others -- all of them make the Israeli strategic target almost an impossible mission, not to mention the superpowers and other outside elements. People who read Sharon properly realize that his target in Lebanon is not to carry out a second Litani operation or to kill several hundred terrorists. From Sharon's remarks it may be construed that the intention is to destroy the military and political infrastructure of the PLO organizations and make their recovery in that country very difficult; and, moreover, to create a situation whereby a new government is established in Lebanon -- fit to be called a legitimate government -- that will make peace with Israel. To this end, the Syrian Army must be expelled from Lebanon -- or from a large part of its territory -- and perhaps even put Bashir al-Jumayyil and his men in control of Beirut. As an experienced tactician, Sharon knows that all this must be done quickly because our schedule is very tight. To coordinate all the factors to reach a purpose, one does not only need strategic and political genius but must also assume that we will be able to act in a political and international vacuum, the entire world viewing events as if in a free circus show.

As stated, a battlefield victory does not preclude a subsequent involvement. Moreover, a second and totally different scenario must be taken into account, the scenario of another kind of war. This one would encourage cooperation between Washington and Moscow and would end in Israel's withdrawal and defeat. Such a scenario must not come true, but its chances are no less than that of a clean victory and it would be foolish to ignore it.

The second scenario does not provide for a largely different outbreak of the war. In this case, too, Israel will not want to be portrayed as the initiator and it will wait for the creation of a proper provocation -- it will wait for an opportunity. It may even be very careful in its initial reaction. Israel's reaction to a provocation need not be an all-out offensive. It may be a relatively limited reaction while waiting for the counterreaction of the other party. If the terrorists react by any sort of attack on an Israeli settlement, the signal will be given for releasing its entire potential. From Israel's point of view, the disadvantage in such a case is that the timing will be determined by the other party; the other party will decide on the timing of the war. Through its desire to attain credibility for its deterrent capability, Israel has tied its hands as if it were prisoner in the hands of a terrorist squad whose aim is to create a provocation.

According to the second scenario, it may be assumed that Israel will have the upper hand and it may even surprise the second party in the first military move. The terrorists have for weeks been discussing in the Arab press what Israel will do when it attacks in Lebanon. Terrorist commanders are even drawing the routes of attack. Most are convinced that the Israeli Navy will play a key role in landing forces from the sea and that the Marj 'Uyun-Khardali axis will be the central route for advancing on land. In their opinion, Bashir al-Jumayyilwill at the same time attack in northern Lebanon. Just as they note that Israel wants to make its move quickly, so they note that the Israeli operation will be different and will not be based on mutual shellings as in the past (so said the military commander of the Popular Front, Col Abu Ahmad Fu'ad, in an interview with AL-HADAF on 20 February 1982).

Fighting will be difficult but the IDF will presumably win, if they do not get overly involved in fighting in builtup areas, a type of fighting in which the Syrians in Lebanon failed. It should be assumed that this stage will end without any clashes with UNIFIL, although the UN force plans to station some reinforcements they will receive in the future in the so-called "loophole," where the terrorists estimate the axis of the IDF's attack on land crosses.

The next stage in the second scenario will differ from the script of the optimist who claims that an operation against the terrorists in Lebanon need not bring about a confrontation between the IDF and the Syrian Army and that, at most, such a confrontation would be marginal. According to the second scenario, Al-Asad cannot currently afford not to help the Palestinians attacked by the IDF in Lebanon. Even if the IDF does everything possible to concentrate its attack on the western part of the coastal area, away from Syrian units, Al-Asad cannot make do with merely firing missiles at Israeli aircraft.

Al-Asad will intervene in the fighting because this year he feels militarily stronger than last year during the missile crisis. His forces are readier in all respects. They have more weapons, a larger number of reserves and stockpiles of equipment and ammunition. From the political point of view, this is an opportunity to extricate himself from pan-Arab isolation with the common cause of the Palestinian issue. If Syria suffices with firing missiles, it will not solve anything and, in any case, Israel will use the opportunity to destroy the missile batteries in Lebanon. Al-Asad and his officers may easily reach the conclusion -- however right or wrong -- that his army can not only defend itself but it can also engage in a long war of attrition with Israel.

Two other elements are interested in an Israeli-Syrian embroglio because of Lebanon. They stand at both ends of the fence and yet each one of them wants the IDF to fight against the Syrian Army. The Christians led by Bashir al-Jumayyil want Israel to do the dirty work for them -- to expel and shed the blood of the Syrian Army. The terrorists are interested in this confrontation because this is their only chance to stand up to the IDF. A Syrian involvement may save them and perhaps even assure the support of other countries and a speedier intervention by the Soviet Union.

According to the second scenario, all the above-mentioned factors guarantee that a war in the north will also include the Syrians. A Syrian intervention will slow down the pace of events and will extend Israel's schedule. It may be assumed that the Syrian units in Lebanon will be hit and at the cost of no few casualties. The IDF will shove them to the east and will threaten the Syrian force but, by the same token, the war of attrition will certainly spread to the Golan Heights, to the Israeli settlements and to the Israeli forces in that area.

An ordinary scenario for the wars in this region has it that Israel is usually not interested in a long war of attrition. Therefore, Israel will be faced with the alternative of trying to break deep into Syrian territory to impose a cease-fire and an Israeli dictate in Lebanon on the Syrians. Such a breakthrough will result in great bloodshed, and in such a case Israel will also risk Soviet intervention. The second possibility will be to continue the war of attrition while the Syrians continue receiving the assistance of volunteers and equipment from the Arab world and other sources. Such a war will also result in bloodshed and many casualties. From the outset, the firepower of both parties assures a large number of casualties. Moreover, a victory over the Syrian Army is not easy and we should not make light of its strength. One should bear in mind that this army includes approximately 1,000 T-72 tanks, a modern tank which can easily cope with any new Western tank. An encounter with such a force might also cost the winning party dearly.

The second scenario contains another chapter: a situation whereby Israel cannot end the war of attrition and cannot impose a mobile war -- in which the enemy would be defeated -- on the other party. On the surface, such a possibility is inconceivable. However, why should not the two superpowers reach a situation whereby they tacitly -- and separately -- agree that the war of attrition should continue so that the parties should for some time -- an extensive period rather -- shed their blood?

Why should a similar situation prevail between Iraq and Iran in spite of the threat posed to the oil sources and not occur between Israel and Syria?

One should take into consideration another move in which the United States expresses willingness to cooperate with the Soviet Union to put an end to the battles after the bloodshed. It is clear that the vague memorandum of understanding between Israel and Washington (whose validity is, moreover, unclear) will not prevent such a move if the White House decided that this would be a way to restrain the Israelis once and for all, as well as to prevent a clash between the superpowers and strengthen U.S. status in the region, one should not make light of such a possibility, since voices to this effect have already been heard in the Pentagon. In that case, not only will Israel not remain in Lebanon but our position in the Golan Heights and the Galilee would be in question, regardless of the Golan Law. The Christians will probably join the calls of Israel to pull out of Lebanon, seeking a way to turn a new leaf in the region.

This was the second scenario; it need not materialize exactly point for point, but even a scenario of an easy victory, the victory of a picnic outing, is not assured. This should be borne in mind before engaging a nation -- one of whose goals is to maintain its strength -- in an initiated war through which we are not only seeking to defend ourselves but also to make order in other countries.

POLL SHOWS LIKUD SUPPORT DROPS SLIGHTLY

TA071614 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 7 Apr 82 p 1

[Text] Question: Were elections to the Knesset held today, which party would you vote for? (answers reflect number of Knesset seats)

Party	April 1982	Current Knesset
Likud	48	48
Alignment	45	47
Shinuy	3	2
Tehiya Movement	5	3
NRP	6	6
Agudat Yisra'el	5	4
TAMI	2	3
HADASH	4	4
Ratz [as published]	2	1
Telem	-	2
Total	120	120

These are the finding of a public opinion poll conducted at the beginning of April by the Dahaf Institute directed by Dr Mina Tzemah. It was commissioned by YEDI'OT AHARONOT and involved 1,239 people constituting a representative sample of the adult Jewish population excluding kibbutzim.

Note: Compared to a previous poll conducted 1 month ago, this poll indicates a slight drop for the Likud and TAMI, stability in the Alignment's decline compared to its current situation in the Knesset, a slight rise of the Tehiya movement and the NRP and the disappearance of Telem.

Question: Who is more fit to serve a prime minister now? The following are the replies (in percentages): Begin -- 43.1; Rabin -- 11.2; Peres -- 7.7; others -- 10.3; no reply -- 27.7.

Question: Out of the following people -- Shamir, Peres, Weizman, Rabin, Sharon -- who is the most suitable to become the next prime minister, if Begin were to retire? The replies (in percentages): Rabin -- 21.6; Sharon -- 14.9; Peres -- 13.6; Weizman -- 11.7; Shamir -- 6.7; others -- 13.1; no reply -- 18.4.

Asked the same question about the defense minister, the replies were computed in the following order: Sharon, Weizman, Rabin, Bar-Lev; regarding the finance minister: Airdor, Hurvitz, Ben-Shahar, Ya'aqobi; the foreign minister -- Shamir, Eban.

OAU LABOR MINISTERS MEETING ENDS 6 APR

CA071636 Salisbury Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 6 Apr

[Text] Organization of African Unity ministers of labor, who have just ended a conference in Salisbury, adopted a number of resolutions mainly dealing with labor matters.

One of the resolutions calls on all OAU member states to continue their support for and solidarity with the oppressed African workers in apartheid ruled South Africa. The resolution also requests African members of the governing body of the International Organization of Employers to report to the OAU labor commission on any meetings or activities concerning South Africa.

The conference condemned a meeting organized by the International Organization of Employers at which delegates from apartheid ruled South Africa took part. In the light of this meeting, the Salisbury conference adopted a resolution calling on the director general of the International Labour Organization of Employers.

The conference also decided to request the OAU secretary general and director general of the Afro-Arab organization to redouble their efforts in an attempt to improve and strengthen relations.

The conference ended with an address by the minister of labor and social services, Comrade Kangai, who spoke of the threat posed by apartheid ruled South Africa on independent African states in southern Africa.

ALGERIA

BENDJEDID OFFERS MEDIATION IN IRAN-IRAQ WAR

NC071449 Paris AFP in English 1440 GMT 7 Apr 82

[Text] Algiers, 7 Apr (AFP) -- President Chadli Bendjedid today offered to mediate in the Iraqi-Iranian war.

Algeria, he said, "is prepared to do as much as possible to help end the bloodshed and safeguard the human lives which the Islamic world is losing daily." "We shall not hesitate," President Chadli Bendjedid said, "if it is possible for us to make a contribution to end a war between fraternal countries of Islam."

The 1975 Algiers agreement, under which an Iraqi-Iranian frontier dispute was settled, could serve as the point of departure, he said. "The Islamic world," he added, "and Iran in particular, constitute a strategic strengthening of the Arab fatherland and a meaningful contribution to the Arab nation in its fight against the Zionist enemy."

LIBYA

STUDENTS MARK SIXTH ANNIVERSARY OF UPRISING

JANA Views Students' Role

LD070914 Tripoli JANA in English 0813 GMT 7 Apr 82

[Text] Tripoli, 7 Apr (JANA) -- The revolutionary student force in jamahiriyah is rallying to wage a new battle, escalating the people's revolution and widening the revolutionary committees' movement. It will also take new steps to resolve the conflict in the interest of people's authority and freedom and to herald the humanitarian dicta, destroy reactionary culture and ideas of the old society and crush all obstacles, [and] obstructive persons.

The revolutionary force, amidst celebrations today marking sixth anniversary of the students uprising, will undertake a distinguished militant role in realising new revolutionary tasks affirming the inevitable victory for the revolutionary force and consolidating the people's authority.

People's committees at some colleges will be selected and self administration at some secondary schools and some colleges will be established. There will also be a march on the media organs so as to create a nationalist revolutionary media serving the Arab nation's causes, confronting imperialism and Zionism, and exposing the vile traitors and their claims, capitulation and shameful subservience.

For the first time, the revolutionary-unionist-nationalist force will join the revolutionary student force in the revolutionary march on the media in order to transform it into a nationalist unionist media of the masses which heralds emancipation and agitates for people's revolution confronting all regionalist and reactionary trends.

Media 'Marched On'

LD071400 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 7 Apr 82

[Text] The student revolutionary force in the jamahiriyah today accomplished supreme revolutionary tasks at the peak of its continuous battle to escalate the popular revolution and extend the growth of the popular revolutionary committees' movement during celebrations held today on the occasion of the sixth anniversary of the students' 7 April revolution against the reactionary rightwing forces and the remnants of the rotten partisans and bourgeoisie.

The student masses broke out into the arena of serious revolutionary action, forming popular committees in the university colleges and proclaiming the establishment of self-management at some colleges, institutes and secondary schools. The revolutionary students' force, together with the committed revolutionary unionist pan-Arab force, marched on information media, transforming them into committed, inciting revolutionary pan-Arab jamahiri information media to expose colonialism and its pillars, to uncover the agents and the reactionaries, to burn the rubbish on the Arab arena, to incite popular revolution and unity and to herald the final break from slavery and all forms of domination, repression and exploitation.

Fatih University in Tripoli observed the sixth anniversary of the students' revolution this morning. It organized a large rally in which the students of the university, the secondary schools and military institute and other Arab students took part.

A review of the students, male and female, in military uniform, took place during the rally. An equestrian show also was held in which the students took part.

The secretary of the student congress at Fatih University delivered a speech at the rally. At the beginning of the speech, he stressed that the 7 April Revolution, which came in response to the call of the leader in 1976, has been able to cleanse the university of the reactionary rotten rightwing and remnants of bourgeois and defunct styles of culture of the old society. He pointed out that before 7 April 1976 the rotten bourgeois reactionary rightwing used the university to spread its defunct reactionary venom and ideas to mislead the student masses, to throw them into positions hostile to their revolution and to (?divert) them from the revolutionary march and the masses, the true owners of the interest of the revolution.

The secretary of the higher popular committee of Fatih University then delivered a speech in which he praised the role of the student masses, who scored victory against the rotten reactionary rightwing in the university on 7 April 1976, for uprooting reactionaries and agents from the education establishment. He said the students of the Great Fatih will always remain the shield of the revolution, proudly standing and challenging in the face of all enemies and difficulties. The secretary of the higher popular committee of the university saluted the struggle of the Palestinian people and their raging uprising against the Zionist enemy in the occupied land.

Students Issue Statement

LD072016 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1600 GMT 7 Apr 82

[Text] Tripoli, 7 Apr (JANA) -- After marching on the information media today, the student revolutionary forces issued the following statement:

While they salute the sixth anniversary of the students' revolution, which was a climax of the Arab and world student struggle, the students announce their march on the information media so that it may become an information service of the masses and a platform for inciting popular revolution to destroy the partitioned regional reality and to sweep away the disintegrating traditional regimes, be they despotic rule, tribalism, party rule, factional or class rule; to herald the advent of the power of popular congresses and popular committees, to expose the oppressive and exploitative forms of relations, wages, rents and trade; and to herald the age of partnership and liberation of the essentials which should not be exploited.

The students, by virtue of their impartial composition and because they have bypassed the party-oriented education system which instills fear and terror and checks creativeness and because they are able to absorb the contents of the "Green Book" which draws the picture of final deliverance and freedom from all forms of suppression and enslavement prevailing in the world today, are a living and effective force capable of leading the popular and masses revolution to build the jamahiriyah to embrace all Arabs.

Encouraged by the student revolutionary forces, a number of Pan-Arab progressive forces from various Arab arenas have taken part in the students' march from different informational positions and in affirmation of the pan-Arab role of the information media of the masses, which will be the students' effective weapon in exposing defeated, partioned Arab reality which is centered on tribalism, sectarianism and party affiliation, to raise this information to the level of pan-Arab allegiance to the Arab nation in confronting the imperialist and Zionist invasion which is advancing daily at the expense of the Arab nation.

To stress the students' persistance in continuing the daily struggle against all obstacles of the revolutionary train, to destroy all the various mockeries and those who advocate them and those lying in wait for the revolution, they declare their liquidation of all that hinders the pan-Arab mass information media so that progressive, pan-Arab thought may reach all the oppressed and tortured in the Arab homeland and the world. Let us go forward and the struggle will continue.

Text of Statement

LD080034 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1930 GMT 7 Apr 82

[Text] Tripoli, 7 Apr (JANA) -- Student revolutionary forces today marched on the information media and issued a statement in this respect. The following is the text of the national statement concerning the march on the information media, as read by struggler Hakmat Abu Zayd:

Because the SPLAJ [Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah] popular masses have decided, through the Great 1 September Revolution to become the nucleus state, the state for all Arabs, the state that raises the banners of unity and fights with them and through them to build the Arab man;

Because the student revolutionary committees, in furtherance of the revolutions of their popular conferences and out of their commitment to the logic of the revolution of unity, have decided to take control of the information media and to place them toally in the service of the causes of our Arab nation and its glorious struggle; and

Because of the response of the progressive nationalist forces in the Arab homeland to the call of the Great 1 September Revolution and because of their response to the movement of the student revolution committees that today on the sixth anniversary of the 7 April students' revolution realized one of their great achievements by asserting the pan-Arab character of the information of the Great 1 September Revolution:

We, the intellectuals, journalists, creative people, information workers and representatives of political forces, have met here in Tripoli to review ourselves and our capabilities in the face of the Zionist imperialist invasion, the occupation of lands by multinational armies, the corruption of consciences by a hostile multi-instrumented information, the spreading of corrosion that should be halted and the exploitation of reactionary regimes that have to be faced.

We have met here and studied our tasks amid these dangerous conditions. We have decided to shoulder our responsibilities in the battle of pan-Arab progressive information by joining in the revolution move of the student masses of the Jamahiriyah in two ways:

A. By being part of the march

B. By participating in drawing up the plan to which the Jamahiriyah information media, and the pan-Arab progressive information media in general, will adhere in the present state -- the stage of open battle -- until the pan-Arab soil is completely liberated and Arab man's future is improved.

This plan generally is based on the principles:

1. That the imperialist reactionary Zionist offensive is primarily directed against the conscience of the Arab man, against his mind, his emotions, his feelings and his conscience and is centered on attempting to disfigure his personality and to cancel his identity, his history, his heritage, his attachment to his land and his pride in belonging. In view of this, the first condition for stopping this offensive is to protect the Arab man from disfiguration. This can be achieved only through freedom and truth. Hence, our cause now is one of freedom, the freedom of the masses, of enabling the masses to do away with the nights of oppression, dictatorships and interfamily fights. Our cause is one of truth, of giving the masses all the truth so that they will know precisely who are their friends and who are their enemies causing their troubles, their backwardness, their oppression and causing them to drown in the tribulations of fate.

2. The media is almost the most dangerous contemporary weapon. To employ it to benefit the objectives of our struggle, all our mind and all our experiences must meet to create media for Arab people and not media of a despotic ruler, not media of the dominating colonial, not media of the exploiting merchant. Therefore, it is imperative that all nationalists participate so that we will be able to repel the cultural and educational invasion, to protect our conscience from distortion and mutilation and to guarantee the arrival of our revolutionary call, the call for the good, for the right and the progress of our masses all over the Arab land.

3. Hostile media try to steal from us [word indistinct] even of our religion through the reactionary Arab regimes and forces, while we, the revolutionaries who are more committed to religion, have a duty to protect it with what is right and with what constitutes a basic priority in the formation of the nation, and with what is a revolution against the rulers, the despots and the corrupt.

4. Hostile media try with all their instruments and devious methods, methods which have benefitted from contemporary technology, to create an atmosphere of resignation in the Arab homeland -- resignation to the Zionist usurpation of Palestine, to reconciliation with the Israeli enemy and to plans of partition and dismemberment. It is our duty to confront the conspiracy, to abort it and to expose the plotters, the ones who are trapped, the deviants and the sqanderers.

Hostile media infiltrate our minds through books, songs, magazines, newspapers, tapes, radio programs and children's publications. It is our duty to assert our presence in all of these fields, both in theory and in practice. Asserting our presence is done by respecting the Arab person's mind instead of exploiting his feelings and by respecting the Arab east for its heritage instead of pushing it toward alienation from its homeland and its history. It also is done by building media that the masses would understand with awareness, would believe in with committment, would discuss with [word indistinct] and would reject any exaggeration or intimidation from it.

The tasks of the revolutionary media we want to establish would be:

1. To give the Arab masses facts and information about correct news and to rid them of the fetters of imperialist and reactionary media.

2. To provide the Arab masses with revolutionary education which would explain their path to liberation and the establishment of their unity from the ocean to the Gulf.

3. To look after the national heritage, to spread it, to initiate vitality in all sectors of educational life and to resist ideologies and currents hostile to the aspirations and beliefs of the Arab people.

4. To incite the Arab popular masses to revolution and to achieve the national objectives.

5. To realize specific media by destroying the meanings hostile to the masses, meanings were and still are propagated by imperialism, reaction and Zionism. [as received]

6. To cause the deployment of Arab resources, particularly petroleum, to be used for liberation, unity and the construction of a better future.

Brother intellectuals, journalists, creative people and media persons in our Arab homeland, we work with these principles. We begin with their guidance. We adhere to their boundaries and we will expand their horizons so that these principles create the attitude and action to enable us to meet the level of the responsibility and the danger. The arena of honor is open to all of us. The jamahiriyah, as the embryo state of unity, is the state of all Arabs. It opens its heart and arms for us. Duty calls us to unite with it in the trench of struggle. Our initiative has emerged from its land so that we can meet, (?gather), talk and act. The arena is open and the battle is open; come let us embark on it together -- along the Arab homeland, from the Atlantic shore to the waters of the Gulf -- so that we protect the identity and the destiny of the nation.

Come, let us protect the honor of the (?world) as a protection for the nation's honor and its right to live.

Long live the struggle of the Arab nation for liberation, progress and unity. Long live SPLAJ, its land and its revolution for all Arabs.

AL-QADHDHAFI ADDRESSES STUDENT GROUPS 3 APR

LD032002 Tripoli JANA in English 1812 GMT 3 Apr 82

[Text] Benghazi, 3 Apr (JAMAHIRIYAN NEWS AGENCY) -- Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the revolution, met today with the students of Al-Hawari Institute for female teachers, January Martyrs secondary school and the Institute of Applied Engineering. He said that the students represent the strategic reserve and the big hope for the historical process. The revolutionary movement should be extended in order to play a greater role.

He said that the revolutionary forces should organize themselves in revolutionary platforms and that such platforms should be the ultimate aim for the members of revolutionary committees. He added: "The revolutionary forces which are the new movement, have a significant presence in the world and have become a living force protecting the new political revolutionary movement." He said: "The committees should win the world's respect because they are an historical movement and a model for international revolutionary politics. From this students medium, the revolutionary movement should come into being and incite the masses to confront the enemies."

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi then spoke of the current Arab situation saying that the reason for this present situation is the absence of the Arab masses' will. He said that in future the masses should assert their will in response to the agitation of the revolutionary forces. He added that there is no way to stand up to the imperialist Zionist challenges except through mobilising the masses' potentials to achieve victory: The masses should play an effective role and assume this natural position.

He said all political, economic and military establishments in the world have proved to be bankrupt and have failed to solve their problems. "This affirms our new dicta which we preach to the world. The world has tried all political and economic regimes, and there has been no progress, because of the nature of such establishments. The only establishments which cannot go bankrupt are the masses' establishments.

"The revolutionary committees movement should be built on historical understanding because their mission is an historical one. All of you shoulder this responsibility and the revolutionary committees should defeat all obstacles that hinder the flourishing of the revolutionary movement. This generation of students is one qualified for this historical mission," he concluded.

GREEK COMMUNIST PARTY HEAD ARRIVES 5 APR

LD051900 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1730 GMT 5 Apr 82

[Text] Tripoli, 5 Apr (JANA) -- The secretary general of the Greek Communist Party, Kharilaos Florakis, and the delegation accompanying him arrived in Tripoli this evening. In a statement to JANA, Florakis said this visit affirms the Greek Communist Party's solidarity with the struggle of the Libyan Arab people in their confrontation with colonialism and imperialism. Moreover, it will enable the delegation to familiarize itself with the democratic experience applied in the jamahiriyah and with the country's achievements. He stressed that this visit will further consolidate bilateral relations and increase mutual cooperation.

ROMANIA'S PATAN SET TO DISCUSS COOPERATION

LD072130 Tripoli JANA in English 1744 GMT 7 Apr 82

[Text] Tripoli, 7 Apr (JANA) -- Mr Ioan Patan, member of the Central Committee of the Romanian Communist Party, deputy prime minister and chairman of the Libyan Arab-Romanian economic cooperation committee, and his accompanying delegation arrived here this morning.

In a statement to a JANA correspondent, he acclaimed relations between the two peoples and said the visit was aimed at strengthening and discussing aspects of technical and economic cooperation between the two friendly countries.

WESTERN SAHARA

INTERIOR MINISTRY CONDEMNS MOROCCAN 'MANEUVERS'

LD070854 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 7 Apr 82

[Text] A statement issued yesterday by the Saharan Information Ministry strongly condemned Morocco's expansionist maneuvers and the countries carrying out similar actions in Africa to prolong the colonialist wars. The statement noted that the idea of arranging an emergency OAU summit has failed and the attempts to hold a meeting of the committee of elders within the framework of the OAU can only prolong the war in the Western Sahara. The statement stressed the Saharan Arab Democratic Republic's adherence to the OAU Charter, the best expression of African wisdom which some are trying to slander by siding with Morocco in its colonialist war against an African people struggling to regain its usurped rights.

ETHIOPIA

MENGISTU ATTENDS ANNIVERSARY MEETING IN CAPITAL

EA062036 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 0900 GMT 6 Apr 82

[Excerpts] Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam today placed a wreath at the victory monument, marking the 41st anniversary of the Ethiopian patriots' resounding victory over the Italian fascists after a continuous 5-year war of attrition.

On arrival at the victory monument in Megabit 28 Square in Addis Ababa, Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council and of Commission for Organizing the Party of the Workers of Ethiopia and commander in chief of the revolutionary army, was received by Comrade Zewde Teklu, chairman of the Addis Ababa City Residents Association and mayor of Addis Ababa. At the ceremony at the victory monument, Comrade Chairman Mengistu acknowledged the salute of an honor guard and the national anthem was played.

Meanwhile, leaders of friendly socialist countries have sent messages of congratulation on the occasion to Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam, including messages from the leaders of the USSR and the GDR and the Soviet premier.

DEFENSE, SOCIAL SERVICE, AGRICULTURE SPENDING UP

NC071021 Paris AFP in English 1009 GMT 7 Apr 82

[Text] Addis Ababa, 7 Apr (AFP) -- Ethiopia's defence budget has nearly doubled to 782 million birr (about 391 million dollars) in four years, according to government figures for this year's budget allocations. The defence budget stood at 345 million birr at the height of the Ogaden war with Somalia during 1977-78.

According to the NEGARIT GAZETTA, which carries official proclamations, the government has also allocated marked increases in the budgets for agriculture, education and public health. The agricultural budget has increased by 55 percent to 340 million birr, that for education by 40 percent to 281 million birr and for public health by 37 percent to 117.5 million birr, compared with 1978.

The overall budget has gone up 75 percent to nearly 2,900 million birr. By contrast, the allocation for public security has decreased by 9 percent to 128 million birr. The increases have apparently been beefed up by external assistance which went up by 67 percent and proceeds from external loans and credits, up by 153 percent. Apart from inflation, which the government has put at an annual average of 10 percent, the escalation in the defence budget is a reflection of Ethiopia's continuing pre-occupation with national security, in the view of observers. They point out that the unresolved dispute with Somalia has forced the government to maintain large troop deployments along its eastern and southern boundaries with its hostile Horn of Africa neighbour. At the same time, the effort by the Addis Ababa government to end the 20-year rebellion by secessionist guerrillas in the northernmost province of Eritrea continues to be a growing burden, the observers say.

The increases in the agricultural, educational and health budgets seem to point to the Marxist government's commitment to achieve greater social equality. Among the most positive of the successes so far is the fight against illiteracy, which has sharply reduced the rate from 93 percent to 63 percent in two years. Authorities expect this rate to drop by another eight percent this year, catapulting Ethiopia from among the most illiterate countries in Africa to one of the most literate. The substantial increase in the agricultural budget is also significant, reflecting the government's concern to strengthen peasants cooperatives and boost agricultural production as a way both of achieving food self-sufficiency and surpluses for export.

SOMALIA

FRONT RADIO CITES NONPAYMENT OF WORKERS

EA072330 (Clandestine) Radio Kulmis in Somali to Somalia 1800 GMT 7 Apr 82

[Text] Radio Kulmis reporters in the eastern and Nogal regions report widespread chaos and confrontations in both regions between the workers and all government ministries and affiliated agencies of the fascist terror regime of Siad Barre. This follows the non-payment of salaries to workers in the past 4 months by the bloodsucking regime led by its murderer patron, Muhammad Siad Barre.

The radio Kulmis reporters add that no work is in progress in those regions and all workers have walked out of their workplaces where the terror regime has been sucking their blood. The downing of tools follows the Siad Barre terror regime's failure to pay the workers whose efforts they have exploited while the country is economically bankrupt.

UGANDA

ARMY, POLICE MOUNT OPERATION IN KAMPALA SUBURBS .

AB071510 Paris AFP in English 1449 GMT 7 Apr 82

[Text] Kampala, Apr 7 (AFP) -- The Uganda Army and police today mounted a large scale security operation in the southern suburbs of Kampala, searching houses and arresting several hundred civilians.

The operation started in the morning and continued for about two hours in the suburbs of Lungujja, Lubaga, Ndeeba and Mutundwe. Members of the security forces fired sporadic shots as they carried out the operation, but it was still not clear by Wednesday afternoon if there had been any injuries or casualities.

Similar security operations have been mounted in the same suburbs over the past six weeks since the guerrilla attack on the nearby Lubiri army barracks on the night of February 23.

The operations have been repeatedly condemned by officials of the opposition Democratic Party, and DP member of Parliament Kafumbe Mukasa said today that the military operations were characterised by excess brutality and a loss of civilian lives and property.

Meanwhile the official daily UGANDA TIMES, quoting Vice President Paulo Muwanga, reported today that Uganda Airlines will resume flights to the northern province of West Nile within the next few days following an operation to clear the region of former soldiers of ousted dictator Idi Amin. Domestic flights by the national airline to the provincial capital, Arua, were halted in October 1980 after fighting broke out there.

Defence Ministry officials claimed last week that the army sweep through the entire West Nile Province had been completed, and that neighbouring Zaire and Sudan had pledged either to repatriate Ugandan refugees or keep them in refugee camps to prevent them from destabilizing Uganda.

According to the TIMES Mr. Muwanga said there were "enemies in the army who misbehave". But he added that appropriate action was being taken, with several senior army officers facing murder charges for which they will hang if found guilty. Mr. Muwanga said Nigeria had offered 300 scholarships for the Uganda Army to train in the west African country.

RWANDA

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON ZAMBIAN LEADER'S VISIT

EA071222 Kigali Domestic Service in French 1115 GMT 6 Apr 82

[Rwanda-Zambia communique on visit of President Kaunda 4-6 April]

[Summary from poor reception] President Kaunda of Zambia visited Rwanda 4-6 April 1982 at the invitation of President Habyarimana. The two heads of state held talks in an atmosphere of brotherly cordiality and complete mutual trust. They expressed their satisfaction with the present state of mutual relations and their determination to consolidate them.

"To this end, and to show the importance they attach to the strengthening and development of cooperation between their two brotherly countries, the two heads of state signed a general cooperation agreement establishing the Rwanda-Zambia bilateral cooperation commission. The joint commission is charged with the periodic assessment of the development of cooperation between Rwanda and Zambia with a view to submitting recommendations to the two governments on ways and means of setting up projects and programs of mutual interest.

"In addition the two countries' ministers went on to sign trade, air transport and cultural cooperation agreements." During their stay, President Kaunda and his delegation toured a number of development projects.

"On the level of regional cooperation, the two heads of state stressed the importance they attach to the creation of subregional groups to promote the economic and social development of African countries, while relying first and foremost on their own efforts. They expressed the opinion that in this way the African peoples will be able to achieve their prime objective, the creation of an African economic community by the year 2000 in the context of the global strategy of African development as defined in the Lagos plan of action."

The two presidents also supported the continuation of the North-South dialogue as the foundation of a new international economic order.

"On the international political situation, the two heads of state noted with genuine satisfaction that their view on major problems facing the international community were identical. They reaffirmed their faith in and total commitment to the fundamental principles of the UN and OAU Charters."

"The two heads of state also examined the political situation in southern Africa, particularly the liberation of Namibia, the domination of apartheid and South African aggression against the frontline states." The two presidents expressed their support for the liberation struggle of the Namibian people and appealed to the international community to help put an end to South Africa's occupation of Namibia. They went on to condemn apartheid and expressed their unswerving support for the liberation movements in South Africa. Thev also appealed for the release of political prisoners in South Africa and condemned South Africa's acts of aggression and sabotage against the frontline states, particularly the invasion of Angola, and demanded the withdrawal of South African troops from Angolan territory.

"On the Western Sahara, the two heads of state regretted the polemic surrounding the question of the self-determination of the people of Western Sahara. They made a direct appeal to all member states of the OAU to find a rapid solution to this question in order to (?restore) [words indistinct] and the credibility of the OAU."

They concluded that President Kaunda's visit to Rwanda was an important step in the consolidation of the excellent relations between their two countries. They agreed to meet more often in order to guarantee the development of solidarity and cooperation between Rwanda and Zambia. President Kaunda invited President Habyarimana to visit Zambia and the invitation was gratefully accepted. The date of the visit will be fixed later.

SENEGAL

DIOUF ADDRESSES NATION ON EVE OF NATIONAL DAY

AB041019 Dakar Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 3 Apr 82

[Text] The head of state addressed a radio and television message to the nation at 2000 on the occasion of National Day which will be marked tomorrow. The official ceremony will be held at Lougah. By deciding to rotate the 4 April national and official ceremony between Dakar and the regional headquarters, the government wanted to further promote the socioeconomic status of the regions and to consolidate national solidarity, President Diouf declared. According to the head of state, this objective has been achieved and this idea of rotation will still continue in the same spirit of strengthening national cohesion.

The 4 April celebration, the president recalled, is mainly that of the youth and the army, as well as that of the Senegalese nation, which tomorrow will march past proudly and renew their faith in the future of the country. President Abdou Diouf pointed out that the opportunity will once again be given, through these public activities, to our valiant army which, apart from its permanent duties of safeguarding the territorial integrity -- a task it is fully discharging -- is actively taking part in the economic and social development efforts of Senegal. The head of state said the army is a model of discipline and rigor. He added that it represents a loyal and efficient force and its high virtues have earned it consideration and respect in Senegal and abroad. This is why he renews his total confidence in it and expresses his entire satisfaction with it.

Speaking of the youth who represent the future of Senegal, the head of state pointed out that they remain the centerpiece of the concerns of the government which will now tackle with more vigor and determination youth's fundamental problems of employment. To this end, he observed, an interministerial meeting will be held to outline a new strategy which, while safeguarding the ever threatened employment field, should promote the creation of new jobs.

On politics, the head of state pointed out that the existence of 12 political parties clearly demonstrates the vigor of our democracy. However, this pluralism, a sign of political vitality, should not become a source of quarrel, division and weakness in our country.

Speaking on the electoral code, President Abdou Diouf reaffirmed that in Europe the code translates as a democratic (?effort) of elections and that it will guarantee the right of the various political parties to express themselves during electoral campaigns. The head of state also spoke about the reappraisal of our political and economic habits because, he stated, it is intolerable that some people should use the powers conferred on them by their duties to enrich themselves illegally to the detriment of the entire nation.

On our country's foreign policy, the president said it remains coherent because it is based on intangible principles and reflects our openminded spirit and our determination to safeguard the true interests of the nation at all costs. Speaking on Africa, the head of state stressed it should consolidate its unity to attain the proposed objectives of the Lagos plan adopted by the OAU heads of state. Concerning what occurred at the recent OAU ministerial session in Addis Ababa, the president stressed that it was a show of strength which our country cannot accept. We remain faithful to the ideals of African unity and we will do everything to restore legality and help the OAU to overcome the crisis it now faces, President Abdou Diouf said.

In concluding his message, he pointed out that for everyone of us National Day must be an opportunity to reflect on the present situation, its perspectives and the solutions to our common problems.

ANGOLA

4,000 PRISONERS OF RSA 'PUPPETS' ESCAPE

AB071950 Luanda ANGOP in French 1825 GMT 7 Apr 82

[Text] Menongue, 7 Apr (ANGOP) -- About 4,000 Angolans held by South Africa's puppets have been able to escape and place themselves under the protection of the Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola (FAPLA) in the Angolan Province of Kuando-Kubango (southern Angola), it was announced by informed circles.

These Angolans, prisoners of the South African lackeys, suffered all sorts of ill-treatment. For the time being, they have been put up about 45 km from Ceulei where they are being given medical treatment.

With the aim of solving their problems, the provincial commissioner of Kuando-Kubango, Jose Zacarias Pinto (Bolingo), visited the Ceulei area where he spoke with the prisoners personally. Emergency measures were taken immediately.

According to reports by some of these citizens, the puppets of the racist South Africans compelled them to work in the fields and all the fruits of their labor were looted by those bandits who left them nothing on which to live. They also said they were kept as prisoners constantly under the threat of a gun and that several of them who attempted to flee were purely and simply executed. This is why all these persons have now expressed their interest in participation in the national reconstruction efforts, especially in agriculture. In this connection, plots of land, seeds and agricultural implements will be given to them.

MOZAMBIQUE

FRELIMO DISMISSES GAZA PROVINCE GOVERNOR

EA071242 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0600 GMT 7 Apr 82

[Communique by the Permament Political Committee of Frelimo issued in Maputo on 6 April]

[Text] The president of the Frelimo and of the People's Republic of Mozambique, leading a party and government delegation, paid a working visit to the Province of Gaza from 1-5 March 1982. During the visit, a state of affairs which seriously affected the principles of our party and state was discovered.

On 5 April 1982, the Permament Political Committee of the Frelimo Central Committee held an augmented meeting, attended by the party first provincial secretaries and Central Committee members to study the situation in Gaza Province in view of what had been discovered. The investigation revealed that, to a large degree, the irregularities found were connected with the unprincipled behavior of Joao Facitela Pelembe, first provincial secretary of the Frelimo and governor of Gaza.

Accordingly, the Permanent Political Committee of the Frelimo Central Committee decided:

1. To dismiss Joao Facitela Pelembe from the post of the first provincial secretary of the party in Gaza Province with immediate effect.

2. To charge the Frelimo control committee with the task of carrying out an in depth inquiry into the situation, the extent of the involvement and behavior of Joao Facitela Pelembe and the repercussions concerning the work of the party.

3. To charge the secretary of the Central Committee for Party Organization, Jose Oscar Monteiro, with the task of heading the party in Gaza Province until the conclusion of the inquiry.

The struggle continues.

[Dated] Maputo, 6 April 1982

[Signed] the Permanent Political Committee of Frelimo Central Committee

ZAMBIA

SWAPO CALLS NEW ELECTORAL PROPOSAL 'ABSURD'

AB080743 Paris AFP in English 0716 GMT 8 Apr 82

[Excerpts] Lusaka, 8 Apr (AFP) -- The five-nation Western contact group's new proposal for an electoral system for Namibia is a "one vote, two counts" system, it was confirmed here Wednesday by diplomatic sources. The new proposal by the group -- the United States, France. Britain, West Germany and Canada -- is an attempt to break the current impasse in their negotiations for Namibian independence.

But the South-West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO), which has been fighting a 15-year guerrilla war to end South Africa's control of Namibia, has already criticized the new proposal. Addressing a SWAPO economic seminar here Wednesday, SWAPO Administrative Secretary Moses Goroeb said: "The contact group has amended the proposal to one vote-two counts, which is equally absurd. Why is Namibia being asked to be subjected to this bizarre electoral procedure? Namibian society is semi-illiterate and requires a simple straightforward system of voting," he said.

ZIMBABWE

MUGABE DISCUSSES SOCIALIZATION, REASSURES WHITES

CA071648 Salisbury Domestic Service in English 1745 GMT 6 Apr 82

[Text] Both the private and public sectors of Zimbabwe must move forward as one regardless of their ideological differences and continue to exist side by side during the three year national development period towards socialism. The prime minister, Comrade Mugabe, said this to white members of the service organizations from all over the country in Salisbury today.

Comrade Mugabe said although the government has already implemented some socialist programs the degree and pace will depend on the availability of resources and the capability to engage in socialist programs. He said socialization in the mining, agriculture, industry and commercial sectors of the economy will be achieved by establishing state and private enterprises. The prime minister said during the transitional period the government will ensure that both sectors of the economy are viable by ensuring their investment capacity and the acquisition of new technological skills. Comrade Mugabe reassured the whites that the government will not victimize or discriminate against them and expressed surprise that skilled and professional whites are leaving the country when their skills are in great demand.

Comrade Mugabe said his party and government believe that the national political base can be widened if there is enough consultations, discussion and debate between the white community and other nonwhite groups. He described the resignations of the white members of Parliament from the Rhodesian Front as a way to facilitate free and easy discussion between them and the government without the barrier which was being imposed by their association with the Rhodesian Front.